

Iranians shell Iraqi city

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iranian border artillery gunners shelled a southern Iraqi city and Iraqi warplanes on Sunday bombed Iranian military concentrations and supply routes along the Gulf war front, the Baghdad command reported. Iranian gunners shelled Saturday night residential areas in the city of Al Qurna in the southern marshes of Iraq, said a military communiqué issued by the command. Two civilians, including a woman, were injured, it said. Two houses were destroyed and seven others sustained unspecified damage, said the communiqué broadcast on the state-run radio. There was no immediate report from Iran on the shelling of Al Qurna. Iran said Saturday that its border gunners halted a two-day shelling of military and economic installations in Basra, Iraq's second-largest city.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordanian Press Foundation
 جوردان تيمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية، الرأى.

18 killed in Bengal floods

NEW DELHI (R) — Torrential rains caused widespread flooding in Calcutta and surrounding areas in West Bengal on Sunday, leaving at least 18 people dead and 650,000 homeless. Reports said the rains were continuing for the third day over the city of 10 million people where swirling waters were knee-deep in many areas. News agencies said Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi would make a one-day inspection trip to West Bengal on Monday to view the flood damage and return to the capital in late afternoon. In Calcutta, India's largest city, transport and power supply were disrupted, streets rendered impassable by the late monsoon rains. In Dhaka, the Bangladesh government has ordered the immediate evacuation of thousands of people marooned by heavy monsoon flooding that has so far killed at least 10 people and left more than 100,000 homeless.

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Rockets fall in Israeli settlement

KIRYAT SHMONA (R) — Two Katyusha rockets fired from southern Lebanon landed in this northern Israeli settlement on Sunday but caused no damage, security sources said. They said the missiles were fired from outside the Israeli-declared "security zone" in southern Lebanon.

Minister says Israel has no neutron bomb

TEL AVIV (R) — An Israeli cabinet minister on Sunday denied a British press report that Israel has produced a neutron bomb, a nuclear warhead which kills primarily through enhanced radiation rather than by blast or heat. Communications Minister Amnon Rubinstein dismissed the claims of Mordechai Vanunu, whom he said was a sacked Israeli nuclear technician seeking revenge for his dismissal, as published in the Sunday Mirror. In the story, South American journalist Oscar Guerrero said that Vanunu, now in Australia, told him Israel had produced five neutron bombs. The Israeli atomic energy commission declined comment.

Saudi and Iranian oil ministers meet

BAHRAIN (R) — Iranian Oil Minister Gholamreza Azagadeh had talks in Jeddah on Sunday with Saudi Arabia's Oil Minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani expected to cover oil production quotas, prices and the forthcoming OPEC meeting in Geneva. The Saudi Press Agency gave no details in reporting the meeting. But Mr. Azagadeh said before leaving Tehran on Saturday that he would discuss "implementation of the plan to determine production quotas for OPEC member states, oil prices and ways to give a clearer prospect of the forthcoming OPEC meeting."

Kuwait names new central bank chief

KUWAIT (AP) — Kuwait's Emir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah on Sunday issued a decree appointing Sheikh Saad Abdul Aziz Al Sabah as governor of the Central Bank of Kuwait for five-year term. Sheikh Salem, 35, was the deputy governor. He succeeded Abdul Wahab Al Tamar, who resigned Sept. 17. The reason behind the resignation was not given.

Soviet shipping minister dismissed

MOSCOW (AP) — The government has removed Timofei Guzhenko from his post as merchant marine minister and sent him into retirement, the official news agency TASS reported Sunday. The two-sentence announcement from the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet gave no indication why Mr. Guzhenko was removed from office, but the action was likely connected with the Black Sea cruise ship disaster that has left 398 people dead or missing.

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Geagea loyalists claim crushing rival thrust

■ Toll rises to 62 dead and 198 injured
 ■ Syria and Amal deny role in fighting

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Rightist hardliners on Sunday crushed an attempted comeback by a pro-Syrian exiled commander in 24 hours of street battles that left 62 people killed and 198 wounded, police said.

"The last pocket of resistance was mopped up at daybreak, when 12 infiltrators from Elie Hobeika's supporters surrendered," said a communiqué issued by the "Lebanese Forces," the nation's largest mostly Christian rightist militia. Police confirmed that loyalists of "Lebanese Forces" anti-Syrian commander Samir Geagea, 37, have defeated the estimated 600 pro-Hobeika attackers. They stormed across Beirut's dividing green line into the mostly Christian sector from the predominantly Muslim zone at dawn Saturday.

There was no word on the whereabouts of Mr. Hobeika, 29, a former bank clerk who was ousted from the command of the "Lebanese Forces" by Dr. Geagea's hardliners last Jan. 15 for signing a Syrian-sponsored peace pact with two other militia leaders.

One unconfirmed report said Mr. Hobeika was in the Bekaa Valley town of Chabrouh, which houses the command headquarters of 25,000 Syrian

troops stationed in Lebanon under a 1976 peacekeeping mandate from the Arab League. The collapse of his thrust has consolidated Dr. Geagea's position as the strongman of Lebanon's 1.8 million Christians. Pro-Geagea militiamen in armoured personnel carriers and jeeps mounted with 106-millimetre recoilless rifles on Sunday patrolled all four residential districts where the street battles raged all day Saturday in east Beirut.

Fresh fighting was reported on Beirut's "green line" battlefield on Sunday.

The "Voice of Lebanon" radio said unidentified gunmen launched an assault from west Beirut under cover of artillery fire but were repulsed by soldiers manning the sectarian divide.

Official confirmation was not immediately available and there were no reports of casualties in the latest fighting.

"Ambulances are there and we heard there was trouble on our walkie-talkies," one militiaman at a roadblock said.

The radio said gunmen tried to penetrate the "no-man's land" strip at about 1300 GMT after shells raked the eastern districts of Masrieh, Muklaas and Beit Mery.

Residents said earlier a dozen shells slammed into another mostly Christian suburb, Ashrafieh, a key hilltop objective in Saturday's battle.

Hundreds of residents trapped in basements and bomb shelters during the fighting ventured out cautiously Sunday to take stock of the losses. They were estimated by police at about 500 million Lebanese pounds (roughly \$10 million).

Broken power cables dangled across streets littered with glass shards in the sprawling district of Ashrafieh, where the heaviest fighting raged. Dozens of smoldering cars were burned down to piles of charred, twisted metal.

The 10th Brigade of the Lebanese army, which is predominantly Christian, has replaced "Lebanese Forces" militiamen along the eastern side of the eight-kilometre long green line.

The 10th Brigade intervened at mid-afternoon Saturday to help beat back pro-Hobeika attackers. The regulars then took over Dr. Geagea's green line positions in a

(Continued on page 3)

Mobutu arrives in Togo in show of solidarity

LOME (R) — Zaire's President Mobutu Sese Seko arrived in Togo to a big welcome on Sunday, close on the heels of an attempted coup that sought to topple his ally, President Gnassingbe Eyadema.

Thousands of cheering Togolese lined the streets of this coastal city to greet Mr. Mobutu. The government has said 13 people died in the coup attempt, seven of them members of a commando that attacked Mr. Eyadema's residence.

Three of the 29 authorities said were captured in the attack appeared on state television Saturday night, saying they were involved in bomb blasts that shook Lome in August 1985 but caused no deaths or injuries.

The government said the 1985 bombings were the work of terrorists and not political opponents of Mr. Eyadema, who has ruled Togo for the past 19 years and has also blamed the latest incident on a "terrorist commando" infiltrating from Ghana.

The three men, named as Lucien Apandji, James Ayayi and Zepa Amami, said they were Togolese and had been recruited

in Ghana by a compatriot they identified as Amami Ayayi. They said they had been trained in Ghana by Ghanaians but gave few other details of the most serious effort to end Mr. Eyadema's authoritarian rule.

According to Togo, the commando numbered about 50 men and entered the country with an assortment of Soviet-made weapons which have since been displayed to diplomats.

Togolese officials on Sunday showed reporters a blood-stained and bullet-marked villa on Lome's outskirts where some of the men were reported caught on Wednesday as they tried to escape by the roof.

A large arms cache including grenades, rockets and rifles was found in the villa, which is near the route usually taken by Mr. Eyadema when he travels from his military barracks home to the presidency in central Lome, the officials said.

Armed Ghanaian soldiers were on guard at the Afaso border post on the western tip of Lome, although the attackers entered Togo by isolated bush tracks, according to the officials.

Kinnock rejects American criticism of Labour policy

BLACKPOOL (R) — British Labour Party leader Neil Kinnock has rejected American criticism of his plans to scrap nuclear weapons and U.S. nuclear bases.

Boosted by opinion polls giving Labour a six-point lead, delegates gathered on Sunday for the party's week-long annual conference, with nuclear arms and energy expected to be major issues.

Arriving in Blackpool, northwest England Mr. Kinnock made clear Saturday night he would not modify the party's policy of nuclear disarmament despite criticism from the Washington administration.

"If we ask for American missiles to leave, then they will," he told reporters. "Another country cannot interfere with the life of a democratically elected government."

He was responding to remarks by U.S. Defence Secretary Casper Weinberger and his deputy Richard Perle that Labour's policy would undermine NATO.

There is likely to be heated debate in Blackpool over peaceful

nuclear energy, on which the party is split three ways. While the leadership favours phasing out nuclear power but says it could take decades, left-wingers are calling for a shut-down within five years.

In the middle is a group of trades unions representing the 100,000 people employed in the nuclear industry, which provides nearly 20 per cent of Britain's electricity. They are calling for a freeze on new power stations pending a thorough study of the issue.

Britain's present Conservative energy secretary, Peter Walker, warned the Labour Party on Saturday of "astronomic problems" for the country if it turned against nuclear power, including serious environmental damage if it reverted to coal-fired plants.

Labour would be the second major British political party to reject nuclear weapons and nuclear power. The Liberals came out against both at their annual conference last week.

Occupation authorities name 3 West Bank mayors

JERUSALEM (Agencies) — The Israeli occupation authorities on Sunday named Palestinian mayors to three cities in the occupied West Bank to replace Israeli officers, an Israeli spokesman said.

The appointments were the first since the assassination of Nabilus Shayor Zafer Al Masri who was shot dead outside his office on March 2, three months after Israel named him to the post. Two Palestinian factions claimed responsibility for the shooting.

The new mayors were named to the cities of Hebron, Ramallah and Al Bireh.

The appointments appeared to be in line with Israel's stated policy of encouraging "moderate" Palestinian leadership in the occupied territories. They also were intended to help meet U.S. demands to "improve the quality" of life for the Palestinians living in the occupied territories.

They were not announced beforehand in an apparent attempt to prevent pressures by Palestinians who have opposed mayoral appointments without elections in the West Bank.

The Israeli spokesman named the appointees as Dr. Abdul Majed Zir, 55, an internist, to Hebron, former Mayor Khalil Hassan Khalil, 70, to Al Bireh and Hassan Al Tawil, 70, to Ramallah.

The head of the Israeli military authorities in the West Bank handed the men "letters of appointment" at the respective municipalities, the spokesman said.

The last elections in the West Bank were in 1976. Israel has since deposed most of the mayors and replaced them with Israeli appointees.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres' multiparty government has rejected Palestinian demands to hold new elections.

Hebron, the second-largest city in the West Bank after Nablus with some 60,000 Palestinians, has been run by an army officer since Israel deposed acting Mayor Mustafa Natshe in July 1983. Mr. Natshe was dismissed after a Jewish settler was stabbed to death in the city centre.

Regent attends talks on regional development

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, on Sunday called for highlighting and enhancing the role of economic and other sectors in meeting the needs of the society and for supporting small and medium economic projects through restructuring the economic situation in the various regions of the country.

The Crown Prince was speaking during a working session held Sunday at the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources to discuss regional development in the Kingdom.

Discussions during the session tackled ways of relating regional economic development with the social dimensions of comprehensive development and narrowing regional differences and making available job opportunities for people of these

regions. The session also included a debate on ways of activating and directing investments and savings towards small development projects in outlying regions through establishing a specialised body to adopt and support small and medium projects in the regions.

Prince Hassan listened to briefing by Ministry of Planning Secretary General Ziyad Fariz on a recommendation for setting up a fund for regional development that would operate through the Cities and Villages Development Bank.

Dr. Fariz said the proposed fund would also give special care to productive projects, increase income, create new job opportunities as well as improve the living standards of inhabitants in the rural regions.



This fund, Dr. Fariz added, will serve as a source of finance and support for regional projects through offering capital and long-term soft loans for small projects that would consequently

generate income and provide job opportunities for the various social categories.

Prince Hassan then took part in a debate over the proposal and stressed that regional planning was the link between the financial and social dimensions of regional development. He also stressed the importance of establishing the proposed fund for its pioneering role in supporting and developing the Jordanian economy.

Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, who also attended the talks, praised the idea of the fund and said that it would play an important role in remedying the problems facing the society.

Taking part in the working session were also Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, a number of ministers as well as heads of departments.

Renton arrives today

AMMAN (J.T.) — British Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Timothy Renton is scheduled to arrive here on Monday on a three-day visit.

Prime Minister Zaid Rifai. Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Acting Foreign Minister Marwan Dudin and other senior officials are expected to hold talks with the British minister during his visit.

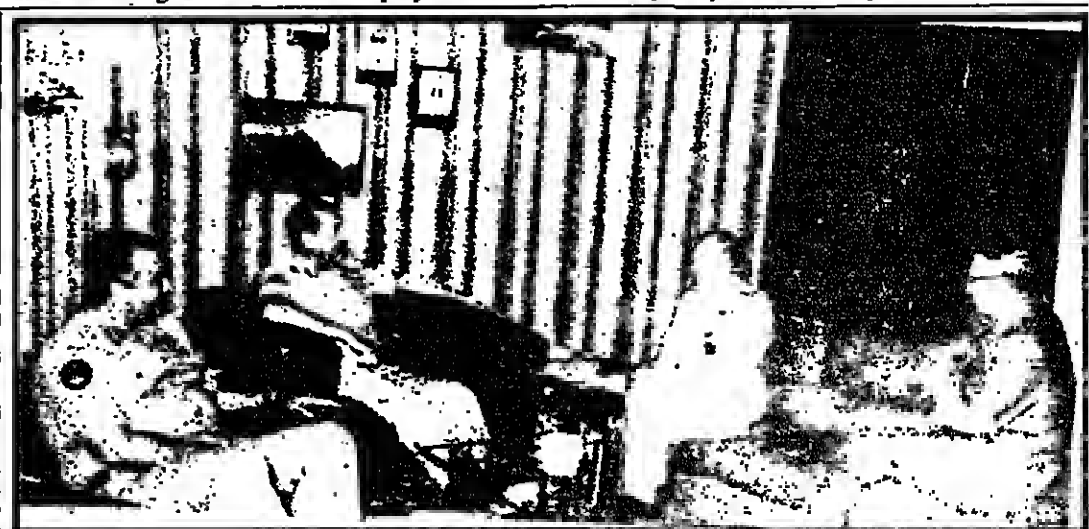
Mr. Renton arrives here from Egypt on the third leg of a visit to the Middle East which began in Sudan on Sept. 24.

A press release by the British Embassy in Amman said Mr. Renton's talks here would form part of regular bilateral political consultations between Jordan and Britain. The press release also pointed out that Mr. Renton would also represent the European Community (EC) whose presidency is currently held by Britain.

Recent British visitors to Amman include Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher in September 1985 and Armed Forces Minister John Stanely in October. Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh visited Jordan in March 1984.

His Majesty King Hussein, now on a private visit to Britain, held talks with Mrs. Thatcher in Canada earlier this month. Mr. Rifai and Gen. Sharif Zaid attended the meeting.

Mr. Renton is Conservative member of parliament for Mid-Sussex and was elected to Parliament in 1974. He took up his present appointment in September 1985, having been appointed parliamentary under-secretary of state at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in September 1985.



C-IN-C RECEIVES BRITISH GUEST: Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker (second from left) receives David Holford, head of a delegation from Britain's Royal College for Defence Studies now visiting Jordan, in a

meeting attended by Chief-of-Staff Lieutenant-General Fathi Abu Taleb (left) and British Ambassador to Jordan Arthur John Coles during a visit the British team paid to the Army Headquarters on Sunday (Petra photo)

Settlers go on rampage in Ashkelon

ASHKELOH (Agencies) — Hundreds of shouting Israeli settlers gathered Sunday to protest the naming of a square after an Arab king.

In a wave of violence, some protesters broke into city hall and others set fire to a car driven by a Palestinian from the occupied West Bank.

The crowd of more than 500, carrying signs and chanting, congregated across from the main square which is to be named after Mohammad V, the late father of Moroccan King Hassan II.

They shouted curses against Prime Minister Shimon Peres, who was expected to attend the ceremony to dedicate the square. Mr. Peres met with King Hassan two months ago.

"The residents of Ashkelon are against this dedication ceremony... especially at a time when we are in confrontation with our cousins across the line in Gaza," said one protester, 36-year-old Nissim Hadari.

An Israeli settler was stabbed to death while shopping in Gaza City on Saturday. The settler's family

and friends broke into city hall and smashed windows Sunday to protest a police order to postpone the funeral by one day and allow the square dedication ceremony to go ahead.

Anti-Arab extremist and parliament member Rabbi Meir Kahane led the group to the mayor's office in city hall to protest the police order, witnesses told AP.

Rabbi Kahane was then carried on the shoulders of dozens of youths to the main square, where some of the crowd tried to smash the concrete ball on which the late monarch's name is engraved.

A car belonging to a Palestinian resident of the Gaza Strip was set on fire, witnesses said.

The dedication ceremony was announced two weeks ago and Mayor Eli Dayan said he decided to go ahead with it because "the aim of the terrorist organisations is to disrupt our routine, and this would constitute a victory for the terror groups."

Police said they could not maintain the calm in this town 50

kilometres south of Tel Aviv if the ceremony and the funeral were held on the same day.

The city council decided to accord King Mohammad the honour for his role in saving Jews from Nazi persecution during World War II.

But right-wing members of the city council and of the nationalist Tzohar Party contended that King Mohammad collaborated with the French pro-Nazi Vichy regime and signed anti-Jewish laws.

Mohammad V became king in 1927 and ruled the country for all but two years, until it gained full independence from France in 1956. He died in 1961.

Contrary to reports from Israel, no representative of the Moroccan palace or government was to attend Sunday's ceremony, sources told Reuters.

It is estimated that half a million Jews of Moroccan origin are in Israel after emigrating from Morocco during the reign of King Mohammad, who is remembered as the protector of Moroccan Jewry.

Zimbabwe paper slams Reagan for sanctions veto

HARARE (Agencies) — Zimbabwe's best-selling newspaper, the Sunday Mail, called U.S. President Ronald Reagan's veto of sanctions against South Africa "racist, paternalistic and insulting."

The Mail, controlled by the state-owned Mass Media Trust, praised Canada for its decision last week to impose tougher economic measures on South Africa.

"President Reagan's sanctions veto is a vote cast for apartheid in a bizarre and personal crusade against freedom for the blacks in racist South Africa, against the known views of his own countrymen, Congress and indeed against American democracy itself," the newspaper said in an editorial Sunday.

"What are we to make of the much glorified American democracy when a man holding the highest office in it can so cynically disregard public opinion expressed both directly and through elected representatives?"

The attack on Mr. Reagan was published as Zimbabwe Prime Minister Robert Mugabe arrived in New York to address the 41st session of the United Nations General Assembly.

Mr. Mugabe will speak as newly-appointed chairman of the

101-member Non-Aligned Movement, a bloc that sees itself as an alternative to the NATO nations and the Warsaw Pact countries.

Reaction was scant in South Africa to Mr. Reagan's veto but a major newspaper said the American leader had come again to the country's partial rescue.

Pretoria stayed silent on Mr. Reagan's veto and initial reaction from anti-apartheid leaders was negative.

Black clergyman Desmond Tutu said Mr. Reagan would be judged harshly by history for his action.

Archbishop Tutu, in a statement Saturday night, predicted that apartheid "will be dismantled and its victims will remember who helped to destroy this evil system and President Reagan will be judged harshly by history."

South African government officials declined to comment on the veto, saying their viewpoint on sanctions had been stated repeatedly.

The Johannesburg Sunday Star said the veto, which is widely expected to be overridden this week by Congress, represented no more than further breathing space for South Africans.

Rebel offer signals turn in Philippines peace talks

MANILA (Agencies) — A ceasefire proposed by Communist negotiators may have broken a stalemate in peace talks to end the 17-year-old guerrilla war in the Philippines, presidential palace officials said Sunday.

The National Democratic Front (NDF), a Communist-dominated coalition that represents the guerrilla New People's Army (NPA), said on Saturday it would propose next week a "temporary nationwide ceasefire of 30 days or longer."

It said in a statement the proposal included safeguards to ensure it was properly upheld and a committee, representing both sides, would be formed to supervise the ceasefire.

Palace officials said senior government officials welcomed the proposal because it could save thousands of lives and act as a spur to the talks, which started in June.

"A ceasefire is always welcome," presidential executive secretary Joker Arroyo told Philippine reporters. "Anything that saves lives is welcome."

There was no former response from the Aquino government to the offer, made in a statement to news organisations. The NDF said it would formally offer the proposal sometime this week.

The Manila Sunday Times newspaper quoted Mrs. Aquino's special legal counsel, Rene Saguisag, as saying the government would have to study the proposal before a formal response.

Earlier this month, the NDF rejected Mrs. Aquino's call for an immediate 30-day end to the fighting, saying the proposal did not provide necessary safeguards to guarantee adherence.

Rejection of the proposal has led to pressure on Mrs. Aquino from the military and members of her cabinet for tough measures against the rebels.

Since returning from the United States on Thursday, Mrs. Aquino has conferred with military officials and members of her negotiating panel to map strategy for future moves in ending the insurgency.

Her spokesman, Teodoro Benigno, told reporters that Mrs. Aquino remained committed to pursuing all avenues to a peaceful solution before ordering a major military offensive.

The Communist proposal followed a warning from President Aquino that she would get tough with the rebels if they rejected her peace initiatives.

Kidnappers toughen stand, page 8

S. Lebanon roadside bomb injures 2 UNIFIL soldiers

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — A roadside bomb blew up a French military truck in South Lebanon Sunday, slightly injuring two French soldiers serving with the U.N. peacekeeping force there, U.N. officials reported.

They said the 10-kilogramme bomb went off at 8 a.m. (0500 GMT) as the two Frenchmen headed from their position in Wadi Jilou to the Nepalese-held village of Ait.

One injured Frenchman was treated for shock and the other for superficial wounds that did not require hospitalisation, according to officials of the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

No other troops were in the blown up Renault truck, the UNIFIL officials said. They declined to be named.

They said the bombing appeared to be deliberate attack. The bomb was tied to a battery with which the bombers activated the blast when the vehicle passed by.

The French contingent suffered most of the bomb and gun attacks that killed five UNIFIL soldiers and wounded 63 in the past six

weeks. These attacks were blamed by local security sources on pro-Iranian Shi'ite Muslim extremist factions headed by Hezbollah, or Party of God.

The 1,050-man French combat battalion had redeployed in less vulnerable areas in the last 10 days as a result of these attacks.

UNIFIL, which has been stationed in South Lebanon since 1978, is drawn from France, Ireland, Norway, Finland, Ghana, Nepal, Fiji, Sweden and Italy.

Meanwhile acting spokesman Joachim Hutter told the Reuters the bomb was apparently detonated by someone at the end of a 400-metre wire found nearby. French troops frequently travel the road, he said.

One injured soldier complained of damaged eardrums, and the other suffered superficial injuries to his face and upper part of his

body, the spokesman said.

Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami visited South Lebanon Saturday and declared support to the hard-pressed U.N. peacekeeping force there.

"We support U.N. Security Council resolutions that recognise Lebanon's sovereignty over its territory," the Sunni Muslim premier said in a speech at the inauguration of an industrial and agricultural fair in the southern port city of Tyre.

He was referring to U.N. Security Council Resolution 425 of 1978 which gave the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon a mandate to help the central government spread its authority to the internationally-recognised southern border with Israel.

Mr. Karami's visit is the first by a Lebanese head of government to South Lebanon since the 5,800-strong peacekeeping force from nine nations deployed in March 1978.

Government sources said Mr. Karami cut short his visit to the South and drove back to the capital because of clashes in Christian east Beirut between rival militia factions.

Lahd: Hizbollah is growing challenge for SLA

METULLA (R) — The leader of the Israeli-sponsored South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia said Sunday the radical Shi'ite Muslim group Hizbollah, backed by Syria and Iran, was mounting a growing challenge to his militia just north of Israel's border.

Maj.-Gen. Antoine Lahd said the SLA beat off a recent upsurge of attacks by the Muslim radicals without Israeli help but Israel might have to intervene if the assault grew larger.

Speaking at an Israeli-organised news conference in his border town, Gen. Lahd confirmed that Israel sent more troops into its self-declared "security zone" in southern Lebanon last week after SLA positions were attacked by Hizbollah fighters.

But he said: "reinforcements arriving from Israel have been very limited and have not taken part in any action."

He said Hizbollah were increasingly well-equipped, using sophisticated weapons and night-vision glasses, and were gaining ascendancy over the more moderate mainstream Shi'ite Amal Movement.

"In my view Amal now only exists in the offices. Hizbollah is taking command on the ground," he said.

Gen. Lahd said he did not care if United Nations peace-keeping forces withdrew from southern Lebanon but if they left under pressure from Hizbollah it would boost extremist groups backed by Syria and Iran.

He said the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) was incapable of maintaining peace or stopping guerrilla infiltration and should not be redeployed down to Israel's northern border.

UNIFIL would prove equally ineffective against guerrilla attacks along the border, he said. Under its mandate, UNIFIL may act as a deterrent and reassure local residents but it cannot detain suspects, impound weapons or fire except in self-defence.

Gen. Lahd disputed reports by the human rights group Amnesty International of torture at the SLA prison in Khiam and said he would consider letting journalists visit the controversial jail.

Here rejected repeated Red Cross requests to inspect the prison, saying there was no basis in international law for such a visit.

The SLA leader acknowledged his dependence on Israeli logistical support but said his men were not "mercenaries of Israel."

He asserted that not a single SLA position had fallen to Shi'ite radical attacks this month, contradicting reports from Israeli military sources that several posts were overrun temporarily.

Gen. Lahd declined to say how many men his force now numbered or whether the latest attacks affected recruitment.

Civilians go hungry as Sudan strife drags on

By Hamza Hendawi
Reuters

KHARTOUM (R) — Efforts to feed famine victims in southern Sudan have focussed attention on fighting that has raged there, unnoticed by much of the world, for three years.

Rebels are battling government troops and their tribal allies for control of the under-developed region, but neither side appears able to settle the conflict militarily.

With prospects of a negotiated settlement diminishing, Western diplomats here say the war could last for years more.

Diplomats and foreign relief workers familiar with the south agree that its six million Christian or pagan civilians are the main victims of the conflict.

They say some two million southerners face famine, mainly because rainfall delays and fighting have disrupted farming and commerce in the region's savannas, swamps and rain forests.

Several relief agencies and donor countries want to send food and other supplies to the south, but a planned airlift has been held up by a dispute with the

government on distribution.

An earlier airlift was halted in mid-August after Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) insurgents shot down a civilian airliner over the south, killing all 60 people aboard.

The government immediately broke off peace talks begun with the SPLA in Addis Ababa in July. They have yet to resume.

Southerners now face the worst conditions since the revolt started in 1983, the diplomats and relief workers said.

Attempts by former President Jaafar Numeiri, architect of the 1972 accord, to impose Sharia (Islamic Law) on the south sparked the current revolt, which SPLA leader John Garang says aims to bring equal rights to Sudan's 23 million people.

Numeiri's overthrow in April 1985 raised peace hopes, but agreement with the SPLA has eluded his successors, despite a pledge by Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi to abolish the 1983 Sharia legislation.

Diplomats say the rebels have stepped up military activity since last spring and now control much of the countryside.

There were indications that the SPLA had received new arms supplies and that up to 15,000 recruits were training in Ethiopia to join 12,000 guerrillas already in the field, they said.

There are some 200,000 Sudanese refugees in Ethiopia, only half of them registered with U.N. organisations.

But the diplomats said army troops still controlled main southern towns and the government seemed to be trying to wait out the revolt, avoiding battles where possible.

"It hopes that the SPLA will gradually lose momentum, suffer massive desertions and that old tribal rivalries rip it apart," said one diplomat.

The SPLA relies mainly on Dinka tribesmen who have traditionally dominated political and economic life in the south at the expense of smaller tribes.

The diplomat said Khartoum had armed groups hostile to the Dinkas and cited the 1983 defection of 15,000 Nuer tribesmen from the SPLA.

They now fight alongside troops in Upper Nile province — even though their political demands on the government are similar to those of the SPLA.

Another diplomat said government troops had poor morale and let their tribal allies do much of the fighting.

"The troops are low on supplies, lack motivation, and the high percentage of southerners among them is a source of concern for commanders suspicious of their loyalty," he said.

Sudan, with a chronic economic crisis and a foreign debt of some \$10 billion, has failed to enlist much outside support in its fight to control the south, although Libya provided two Soviet-made bombers last March.

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He said the SPLA will gradually lose momentum, suffer massive desertions and that old tribal rivalries rip it apart," said one diplomat.

The SPLA relies mainly on Dinka tribesmen who have traditionally dominated political and economic life in the south at the expense of smaller tribes.

The diplomat said Khartoum had armed groups hostile to the Dinkas and cited the 1983 defection of 15,000 Nuer tribesmen from the SPLA.

They now fight alongside troops in Upper Nile province — even though their political demands on the government are similar to those of the SPLA.

Another diplomat said government troops had poor morale and let their tribal allies do much of the fighting.

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Israel faces toughest test in South Lebanon

By Masha Hamilton
Associated Press

TEL AVIV — Israel's huffer zone strategy in South Lebanon is being put to a tough test by a guerrilla offensive against its militia allies.

In a show of force, Israel rushed hundreds of troops to its northern border last Sunday and Monday, along with tanks and armoured personnel carriers. The forces were deployed opposite the 10 to 16 kilometre huffer zone created in June 1985.

The move was intended to boost the morale of the 1,000-member South Lebanon Army (SLA), the Israeli-backed militia which has been under attack for six weeks by Iranian-trained Shi'ite Muslim guerrillas.

Once the deployment was widely reported, especially by the foreign press, Israel began to pull back.

The army stopped short of crossing into Lebanon. It hoped the threat of military intervention would be enough to stem the attacks that have killed 16 militiamen, Israeli military officials said.

"Our movements were intended to send a very clear message across the security zone to all those elements who were planning to wage war against Israel and its allies," an army spokesman told the Associated

Press. The official spoke on condition of anonymity, in keeping with military regulations.

Even if the attacks abate, it is unlikely that a threat alone would stop the Shi'ite guerrillas. They have vowed to rout Israel and its proxies from the so-called "security zone" in South Lebanon.

Some Israeli officials say Israel may eventually be forced to back up its message with muscle.

NEWS ANALYSIS

"If the South Lebanon Army cannot fulfill its mission and if the guerrillas succeed in undermining the security zone, then we will face the danger of another war," said Cabinet Minister Moshe Arens, a former defence minister.

Since Israel withdrew all but 1,000 of its troops from Lebanon in 1985, it has viewed the South Lebanon Army as essential for the defence of its northern border. Nonetheless, Israel is unwilling to risk a move that could spark a clash with Syria.

Syrian President Hafez Assad was quoted in the Beirut newspaper Al Hakika as threatening a "stunning retaliation" if Israel invades Lebanon. The Syrians have 25,000

troops in northern and eastern Lebanon.

Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres tried to defuse the situation Tuesday, by saying he hoped "the increased tension that took place over the last week will subside, and maybe it's beginning to happen."

The attacks against the mostly Falangist South Lebanon Army are being launched by Shi'ite Muslim guerrillas from the Iranian-backed Hezbollah (Party of God). Hezbollah has a loose alliance with the mainstream Amal militia, Israeli officials said.

Hezbollah guerrillas, who began appearing in South Lebanon in the last year, attacking in a new fashion. Instead of two or three guerrillas sniping at positions manned by the South Lebanon Army, hands of 30 to 50 guerrillas are ambushing outposts, the Israeli military officer said.

"These are not like the sporadic attacks of the past. This is a test — a test of the South Lebanon Army's ability to fight against large formations and really hold their line," he said.

Israel trains the militiamen, pays them and has backed the South Lebanon Army militia despite a series of embarrassments, including revenge slayings and the capturing of United Nations peacekeepers.

Mr. Oza was elected in 1983 after three years of military rule in an election from which most of his rivals were banned. Only the Communist Party is still prohibited and the shape of parliament has changed radically as members have switched allegiances, providing another argument for early elections.

Turks vote in parliamentary by-election

ANKARA (R) — Turks voted in 11 parliamentary by-elections Sunday in a popularity test of conservative Prime Minister Turgut Ozal and former leaders making indirect comebacks.

Opinion polls left little doubt that Mr. Ozal would take a majority of the seats, scattered across the country, and the largest

percentage of the popular vote — but the size of his margin in the latter will be crucial.

Mr. Ozal's majority of 74 in the 400-seat parliament is not at stake, but if he gets significantly less than 40 per cent of the vote he will come under intense pressure from the opposition to call an early general election, diplomats said.

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Only the Communist Party is still prohibited and the shape of parliament has changed radically as members have switched allegiances, providing another argument for early elections.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION
Tel. 773111

PROGRAMME ONE

17:00 Koran
17:30 Cartoons
17:40 Children's program
18:05 Scientific programme for children
18:30 Animal World
19:00 Local programme
19:30 Programme Review
19:35 Local programme
20:00 News in Arabic
20:40 Oman's Newsletter
20:50 Arabic series
21:40 Tomorrow's programmes
21:45 Varieties
22:30 Local Comedy
22:50 News in Arabic
23:10 Close down

PROGRAMME TWO

18:40 Medecins de nuit
19:00 News in French
19:15 Sport magazine
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Living Tomorrow
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Growing Pains
21:10 Finder of Lost Love
22:00 News in English
22:20 Crown Court

RADIO JORDAN
855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM
& partly on 95.00 KHz. SW
Tel. 774111-19

07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsweek
08:00 Morning Show
08:30 News Summary
09:00 News Bulletin
10:00 Pop Session
10:30 News Summary
10:50 News Bulletin
11:00 Over a Cup of Tea
11:30 Concert Hour
11:45 News Summary
12:00 Instrumentals
12:30 Old Favourites
12:45 Talking About Music
13:00 Pop Session
13:30 News Summary
14:00 Sports Round-up
14:30 Music
15:00 Newsweek
15:30 Date with a Star

20:00 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary
21:45 Evening Show Cont.
22:00 News Summary
22:30 Evening Show Cont.
23:05 Evening Show Cont.
24:00 Close down

BBC WORLD SERVICE
639, 720, 1323 KHz.

07:00 Newsweek 07:30 For Whom the Bell Tolls 07:45 Reflections 07:50 Worldwide 08:00 World News 08:05 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 08:10 A Perfect Storm 08:15 Newsweek 08:20 The Week 08:25 Newsweek 08:30 National 08:35 World News 08:35 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 08:40 South and Company 08:45 Book Choice 08:50 Sportsworld 08:55 World News 09:00 Reflections 09:15 To Whom the Bell Tolls 09:30 Anything Goes 09:40 World News 09:45 British Press Review 09:50 Good Books 10:00 Financial News 10:05 People's Choice 10:10 News Summary: Professions 10:15 Sportsweek 10:20 I Believe in Yesterday 10:25 World News 10:30 News About Britain 10:35 Training for Tomorrow 10:40 Album Time 10:45 Radio Newsworld 10:50 Quote, Unquote 10:55 Sports Round-up 11:00 World News 11:05 World News 11:10 World News 11:15 John Bull's Other Islands 11:20 English Milestones 11:25 The World Today 11:30 World News

VOICE OF AMERICA
MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9565, 11740, 11925 and 13210 KHz

07:00 News. Informal Presentation of Popular Music with Feature Reports, Interviews, Answers to Listeners' Questions, Science Reports, Sports News at 30 minutes past the hour. 18:00 News 18:30 Newsweek 18:35 Music USA 18:40 News 18:45 Focus 18:50 Special English News & Features 18:55 News 21:00 News 21:30 Focus 21:35 Special English News & Features 22:00 News 22:30 Newsweek 22:35 Music USA 22:40 News 22:45 Music USA Jazz 24:00 News 24:30 VOA World Report

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* An exhibition of paintings by German artist Claus Schomburg at the Petra Bank Gallery — Wadi Saqra (until Sept. 30)

* Chinese photo exhibition at the University of Jordan (until Oct. 1)

FRENCH FILM WEEK

* A French film week at 8:00 p.m. daily at the Royal Cultural Centre (until Sept. 30).
Tonight: "Zone rouge"

VIDEO

* "The NFL's best ever quarterbacks and NFL's best ever 1984" at 7:00 p.m. at the American Centre.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre .. Tel. 6610267
American Centre .. 644371
British Council .. 6314778
French Cultural Centre .. 637009
Goethe Institute .. 641993
Soviet Cultural Centre .. 644203
Spanish Cultural Centre .. 624049
Turkish Cultural Centre .. 665195
Hassan Youth City .. 671316
Y.W.C.A. .. 664251
Amman Municipal Library .. 637111
University of Jordan Library 843555

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also includes from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre. Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabel Al Qa' (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim

countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Monaster, Jabel Luvabidh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630128.

SERVICE CLUBS

Leas Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.

Leas Palestine Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.

Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.

Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel, 2:00 p.m.

Royal Automobile Club. Jabel Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 81261, 815410.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Amman, Tel. 624590.

Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabel Luvabidh. Tel. 637440.

De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Hussein, Tel. 661757.

Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdal, Tel. 623541.

Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabel Amman, Tel. 678906.

Amman Catholic Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 771331.

Amman Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 775261.

St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, Tel. 771751.

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia International Airport. Tel. (05) 53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

07:35 Cairo (MS)
09:15 Amman (RJ)
09:25 Sana'a (LH)
10:30 Muscat, Dubai (RJ)
10:30 Kuwait (RJ)
10:45 Cairo (RJ)
10:55 Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (RJ)
11:05 Damascus (RJ)
11:30 Jeddah (SV)
11:45 Dubai (EK)
13:00 Baghdad (IA)
14:30 Muscat, Bahrain (GF)
14:35 Kuwait (KU)
14:35 Ankara (TK)
18:30 New York, Vienna (RJ)
19:10 Bucharest (RJ)
19:15 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)
19:25 Beirut (MEA)
19:25 Athens (SV)
19:30 Cairo (RJ)
19:45 Bangkok (RJ)
01:00 Baghdad (RJ)

DEPARTURES

07:00 Amman (RJ)
07:40 Damascus, Athens (OA)
08:20 Cairo (MS)
10:40 Frankfurt (LH)
12:00 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
12:15 Baghdad (RJ)
12:15 Athens (SV)
12:45 Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ)
12:45 Dubai (EK)
13:15 Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)
13:30 Paris (RJ)
14:00 Baghdad (IA)
15:30 Cairo (RJ)
15:35 Kuwait (KU)
15:45 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GF)
16:30 Ankara (TK)
16:35 Jeddah (SV)
18:30 Kuwait, Bahrain (RJ)
21:15 Jeddah (RJ)
21:30 Bahrain, Dubai (RJ)
21:30 Baghdad (RJ)
22:15 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
23:30 Damascus, Larnaca (RJ)

MARITIME TRAFFIC

Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port:

— Beerberg
— Tams
— Tams 98

NEWS IN BRIEF

Husseini meets ambassadors

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Communications Muhieddine Al-Husseini Sunday met with the ambassadors of France and Sweden during two separate meetings. Mr. Husseini and the envoys reviewed means of developing communications between Jordan and the two countries in areas related to postal and telecommunications services.

Security team discusses road accidents

AMMAN (Petra) — A public security committee met on Sunday to study means of implementing directives issued by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai for reducing the number of road accidents in the Kingdom. The committee, chaired by Major-General Issa Omari, assistant to the public security director, discussed measures to be carried out in cooperation with other government departments. The meeting decided that a plan should be worked out in cooperation with other concerned departments to find effective solutions to road problems.

Ministry works out judicial institute plan

AMMAN (J.T.) — Justice Minister Riyadh Al Shaka'a has announced that a project for a judicial institute in Jordan has been worked out and referred to the cabinet for discussion and approval. According to the judicial institute project, judges will only be appointed after completing two years of study at the institute after their B.A. degree in law. The minister told the local Arabic daily Al Ra'i that a draft law for the higher courts of justice has also been worked out and is expected to be put into effect after study and approval.

Rawabdeh returns from Cairo

AMMAN (Petra) — Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'uf Al Rawabdeh and his accompanying delegation have returned to Amman after attending meetings of the Arab and Islamic Cities Organisation in Cairo. In a statement on his return Mr. Rawabdeh said that the conference discussed means of promoting cooperation among Arab and Islamic countries with special attention to combating pollution and maintaining cleanliness. Mr. Rawabdeh also met with Egyptian officials with whom he initiated an agreement on bilateral cooperation in sports and youth affairs between Jordan and Egypt.

VTC director leaves for United Kingdom

AMMAN (Petra) — Director General of the Vocational Training Corporation (VTC) Munther Al Masri has left for the United Kingdom on a two week visit. He will attend a meeting by British engineers and will discuss matters connected with vocational training and British-Jordanian cooperation in vocational training with a number of British officials. Dr. Masri will also look into the prospect of benefiting from Britain's experience in training instructors for vocational training.

Yarmouk attends conference on women

IRBID (Petra) — Yarmouk University has taken part in a special conference on women and their economic contributions and roles in decision-making which was held recently in Nairobi by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO). The conference discussed topics on the role of women in economic life, women's social and economic position, women's participation in decision-making and public life, internal and external immigration and other subjects. Taking part in the conference were delegates from Jordan, Egypt, Kenya, the Soviet Union, Canada, Ireland, France and Portugal.

Campus hosts Chinese photo display

AMMAN (Petra) — University of Jordan Acting President Mahmoud Al Samrah on Sunday opened a Chinese exhibition of photographs held in cooperation between the University and the Chinese Embassy in Amman. The exhibition is organised on the occasion of the 37th anniversary of the establishment of the People's Republic of China. The exhibition, which runs until Oct. 1, comprises three pavilions displaying photos and paintings depicting the various cultural, social and historical aspects of China. The event also highlights architecture and engineering in China through the ages.

Jordan, Tunisia resume trade meetings

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The joint Jordanian-Tunisian trade committee on Monday resumed its meetings and discussed the bases to be adopted in trade exchange between the two countries, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported. Both sides to the talks, held at experts level, touched on the prices and kinds of goods to be exchanged as well as prospects for increasing the volume of trade in the near future, Petra added.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, Tunisian Minister of Industry and Trade Salah Eddin Ibn Mubarak, who is currently visiting Jordan, said he had met with Jordanian officials to discuss means of increasing the volume of trade between the two countries from \$7 million per annum to \$30 million. The minister, however, ruled out that the targeted increase would be reached during the current year due to the financial burdens on both countries' balance of payments. The two countries are keen to promote trade exchange but the increase was not expected to take place before the next year, Mr. Mubarak said on Sunday. He said

that Tunisia encountered a series of economic setbacks at the beginning of the year as a result of fluctuating international prices and economic recession.

To start with, Tunisia was affected by a slump in international oil prices which reflected on the national revenues. Tunisia exports about half of its annual yield of oil, amounting to approximately five million tonnes, the minister said. To make things worse, he continued, the international prices of phosphates and fertilisers plummeted to record lows which meant that the extractive industries, which generate annual revenues of approximately \$300 million, dropped to half during the beginning of the current fiscal year.

The minister went on to say that the agricultural season in Tunisia witnessed an unprecedented setback as a result of drought in the region, which was the most severe in the past ten years. The Tunisian wheat crop shrank to one third of annual averages as did other produce, he continued. Also, Tunisian exports of agricultural produce to the 12 member states of the European Community decreased after Spain and Portugal joined the bloc at the

beginning of the year. Both countries are known for their high yield of agricultural products.

Less tourism

Furthermore, revenues from the tourist season, which represents one third of the country's earnings of hard currency, dropped as a result of latest international developments, Mr. Mubarak continued.

More than two million tourists visited Tunisia during the past year but, this year's expectations of a 20 per cent increase in fact turned out to be a decrease of 15 per cent compared to figures for the past year, Mr. Mubarak said. However, he said that Tunisia has drawn up long-term economic reforms based on giving a greater role to the private sector to contribute to the national economy.

The policy, the minister added, is aimed at monitoring internal prices, reducing the government's intervention in the economy and giving more hand to the private sector as well as promoting exports. Reducing consumption and giving priorities to extractive industries and agriculture are other provisions in the newly-adopted policy, he added.

WFP official continues tour of development programmes

AMMAN (J.T.) — A senior official from the World Food Programme (WFP) Sunday made an inspection tour of projects being carried out in the highland regions of the Kingdom. These include range and pasture land projects at Taibeh, Majra, Lejoun, Juhar and Ider in Karak Governorate. The official, Mr. Hisham Bilhaj, who is the WFP's director of the regional office for the Near East and North Africa, was accompanied on the tour by Dr. Mukhlis Ammaria, director of the agriculture department in Karak Governorate, who said that the projects are being implemented with WFP help in the form of donations of food supplies.

On Saturday, Mr. Bilhaj paid an inspection tour to projects being carried out in Ma'an Governorate with WFP aid. Mr. Bilhaj met with the director of the Ma'an education department Muhammad Khattab and for discussions on the methods used in distributing foodstuffs to students in the governorate.

Mr. Bilhaj told the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that the WFP is carrying out three projects in Jordan in cooperation with the government. These projects are a school nutrition project, a pastures development project and a project for the development of highland regions at a total cost of \$28 million over a period of three years.

PSD opens office to deal with telephone harassment

By Ahmad Kreshan

AMMAN — The Public Security Department (PSD) announced on Sunday that it has opened an office for receiving complaints from the public about harassment over the telephone by irresponsible people. The department also said that police stations around the capital have already begun receiving complaints which have been directed to the office.

This office has a special line connected to the automatic exchange at the central post office

and is able to monitor telephone calls with the purpose of identifying sources of harassment and disturbance and putting an end to bad and immoral practices, according to a police spokesman.

He said that any person continually harassed by telephone can call on the police for help and ask that his line be monitored with the purpose of ending the nuisance. According to the spokesman, people found to regularly cause disturbances to others by telephone will have their lines disconnected for good and will also receive detention terms.

Jordan, Egypt discuss \$20m joint contracting company

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Contractors Union has held discussions with Egyptian contractors on the prospect of setting up a joint Egyptian-Jordanian company with a capital of \$20 million to undertake joint construction projects, according to the union's president Ali Abul Ragheb.

He said discussions took place during a visit to Cairo by a

delegation led by Minister of Public Works Mahmoud Al Hawamdeh. The projected company will be shared equally by both unions and \$5 million will have to be paid upon signing the constituent contract. Mr. Abul Ragheb said. The company will not compete with local contractors in either country but will compete with foreign companies carrying out major projects in Arab and African states, he added.

Municipality building public square in central district

AMMAN (Petra) — Amman Municipality is currently building a town square on an 11 dunum piece of land near the Amman Amphitheatre at a cost of JD 205,000. Mr. Hammoud Al Huneidi, director of Amman's

central district said on Sunday. The project, he said, entails building terraces, a fountain and flower beds and seats for pedestrians. Around the yard there will be a number of stores selling oriental souvenirs.

Nationwide campaign against smoking to start today

AMMAN (Petra) — Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh said on Sunday that smoking has been established as the cause of many diseases affecting people and leading to early death, adding that more than one million people worldwide die every year as a direct result of smoking.

The minister was speaking on the eve of an anti-smoking campaign due to start here on Monday with the aim of discouraging people in general and the youth in particular from continuing the habit of smoking. The campaign is to be organised throughout the country and to be conducted by teams from the Ministry of Health.

Smoking causes both material and economic losses for nations as a whole and damages the health of the smoker, the minister said. Jordan, he continued, was among the first few countries in the world that prohibited advertisements promoting the sale of cigarettes, despite pressures and temptations

and in the process the Kingdom lost some JD 4 million annually in advertising revenues. Jordan has also been critical of all foreign newspapers and magazines which publish advertisements for cigarettes and an international radio station which broadcasts commercials during its news casts promoting the sale of cigarettes, the minister pointed out.

He said that the British Medical Association has submitted a memorandum to the government in London requesting that young people under 18 years of age be prohibited from purchasing cigarettes. It is hoped that similar measures would be adopted in

Jordan to dissuade Jordanian youth from smoking, Dr. Hamzeh continued.

Pregnant women who smoke put the health of their children at risk and there should be clear law prohibiting pregnant women from smoking, Dr. Hamzeh added. He said that in Jordan, smoking in public places is banned and he urged members of the public to report violators to the police.

A Ministry of Health spokesman said that the campaign, which was initially scheduled to have started on Saturday, entails spreading awareness among members of the public against the dangers of smoking. The campaign, he said, is mainly directed at 20 to 30 year old people and those who have just started smoking. It will involve distributing pamphlets and holding seminars and lectures cautioning people against the dangers of smoking.

Jordanian, Syrian press associations review cooperation in media issues

DAMASCUS (Petra) — The first round of discussions between President of the Jordanian Press Association (JPA) Mahmoud Al Kayed and president of the Syrian Press Association Saber Falhout opened here on Sunday at the headquarters of the Syrian Arab News Agency (SANA).

Mr. Kayed and Dr. Falhout made speeches in which they reinforced the importance of the visit in increasing and deepening cooperation between Jordan and Syria in areas related to the media and press institutions.

Mr. Kayed, who also is editor-in-chief of the Jordanian Arabic daily newspaper Al Ra'i and chairman of the Jordan Press Foundation board, reviewed the press association's achievements. He also outlined the JPA's role in developing Arab cooperation at a time when he said that all sincere efforts are needed to unify the ranks of Arab Nations to face the numerous pressures and

challenges. In his speech, Dr. Falhout, who also is director general of SANA, reinforced Syrian journalist's commitments to serve the cause of the Arab Nation.

Both men and the accompanying delegations exchanged views on means to develop existing ties between Jordan and Syria in order to defend the Arab World's causes in general and the Palestine question in particular.

They also discussed ways of facilitating the distribution of Jordanian and Syrian newspapers in both countries to allow the citizens of each to get first-hand information on both country's development process and achievements.

Mr. Kayed and Dr. Falhout also reviewed possibilities of cooperation between the Syrian and Jordanian press associations in areas related to journalists' training and experience.

Mr. Kayed, who is heading a Jordanian press delegation on a visit to Syria, arrived in Damascus on Saturday. The delegation is expected to meet with several senior Syrian officials and to visit several press and publications institutions.

Later on Sunday, the Jordanian delegation met with Syrian Information Minister Yasin Rajjoub and discussed with him ways of strengthening ties between press and media institutions in both countries.

Mr. Rajjoub stressed Syria's keenness on further promoting and developing relations between Jordan and Syria in all fields, especially in information.

He also reviewed Syria's stand towards Arab causes. The Jordanian delegation stressed that the achievement of Arab unity and solidarity was the ultimate goal of all Arabs.

New university to improve transport for students

IRBID (Petra) — The newly-opened University of Science and Technology is studying the prospect of reducing fares for students commuting between Irbid and the campus, university president Kamel Ajlouni said on Sunday. He asked students to arrive early at his stops in Irbid in order to reach their classes on time and said that the current crisis at bus stops has resulted because most students arrive shortly before eight in the morning to find that there are not enough buses to take them to the university site. He also said that the number of buses will be increased according to the needs of the students.

Dr. Ajlouni said that the university has ensured lodging for all female students who will be accommodated at Yarmouk University because the new campus cannot presently provide student housing. The new university has signed a loan agreement to build new lodgings, separate from those at Yarmouk University, and gradually female students will be put up in the new lodgings, Dr. Ajlouni added. He explained that the majority of male students are accommodated in rented accommodation in the city and near the university.

Dr. Ajlouni said that 3,000 students are taking lessons at the new site while 700 newly registered students are studying at Yarmouk University, the old site. In the coming academic year, he said, all students will be accommodated at the new university.

Geagea loyalists claim victory

(Continued from page 1)

bid to avert an outbreak of all-out civil war after Mr. Hobeika's defeat, according to police. They said the army suffered three killed and five wounded in the hostilities. Mr. Hobeika's supporters lost 25 killed and 42 wounded while Dr. Geagea's militia lost 27 killed and 56 injured.

Seven other people were killed and 95 wounded in shelling duels between militias across the green line that were touched off by the east Beirut fighting, police said. Sporadic mortar exchanges persisted Sunday, but no fresh casualties were reported by police.

They said 35 Hobeika supporters were taken prisoner during Saturday's fighting, 20 by the army and 15 by Dr. Geagea's 8,000-strong militia.

Dr. Geagea's command had charged that Syrian troops as well as west Beirut militias had provided active support for Mr. Hobeika's ill-fated thrust into east Beirut, the first since the 1975 outbreak of the Lebanese civil war.

But the Syrian command and west Beirut militia allies issued separate denials of any involvement. All depicted the fighting as an inter-Christian power struggle.

Mr. Hobeika, a Maronite Catholic, has been living in the Syrian-controlled Bekaa since his January ouster in a showdown with Dr. Geagea's loyalists that left 350 people dead.

Dr. Geagea, then chief of staff of the "Lebanese Forces", had charged that peace accord Mr. Hobeika signed with the Shi'ite Amal militia and the Progressive Socialist Party on Dec. 28 gave too many concessions to end the Christians' traditional domination of power in Lebanon.

Both Mr. Hobeika and Dr. Geagea cooperated with the Israeli army when it invaded Lebanon in 1982.

But Mr. Hobeika shifted to Syria last year, hoping his alliance with the Damascus government would help end the civil war that was claimed more than 100,000 lives.

Dr. Geagea, 37, who opposes Syrian involvement in Lebanon, was backed in his January takeover by fighters loyal to President Amin Gemayel.

West Beirut newspapers said on Sunday Mr. Gemayel asked the 10th Brigade to intervene in Saturday's battle to foil the bid by supporters of Mr. Hobeika to regain control of the east.

"As the battles raged, the Lebanese army intervened at the request of Gemayel. Army units encircled Ashrafieh and its tanks bombarded the Sodoco area on the green line to cut the attackers' supply route," the As Safir daily reported.

A "Lebanese Forces" spokesman said a force of Baathist and Amal militiamen fought its way across the green line during the Ashrafieh battle. "We have proof," he said without elaborating.

Scientists, religious men reach consensus on issue of brain death

By Najwa Najjar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Brain death has been a long-debated subject among the men of science and the men of religion. For over a decade, controversy has revolved around whether or not a patient is clinically dead when his brain is dead but bodily functions are maintained through a life support system, and whether or not his organs can be transplanted.

Techniques have been developed over the past twenty years to artificially maintain ventilation, circulation and elimination of waste products in a body whose brain has irreversibly ceased to function. "We were confronted with several patients who never recovered from their comas and yet were kept alive by artificial equipment, and on medication to keep their heart beating and blood circulating," said Dr. Ashraf Al Kurdi, consultant neurologist at the Jordan Clinic, Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat asked "are these patients really alive? Do we keep them alive for a few years or do we deprive them of food and let them die naturally?"

Dr. Kurdi and Dr. Hilmi Hijazi, a consultant anaesthetist at the Queen Alia Hospital Institute, established the criteria necessary to declare a patient with brain damage as clinically brain dead during last year's pan Arab congress on anaesthesia held in Amman. Dr. Kurdi noted that prior to the congress, western standards had been used to determine brain death. Both physicians based their research on cases at the King Hussein Medical Centre, the University of Jordan medical centre and at some private hospitals.

Physicians view the brain, not the heart, as the most vital organ in the body since it is responsible for all involuntary and voluntary

nerves, metabolic and gastro-intestinal activities, language and speech functions, special senses, movement, awareness, judgement, insight, feelings, imagination, memory, comprehension and creativity, whereby the heart is "merely a pump."

Brain functions can cease when an individual sustains a severe head injury followed by intracranial bleeding or massive infection or if the brain is damaged as a result of cardiac and respiratory arrest, anaesthetic accidents, perfusion problems, drowning or profound shock. However, in order for a patient to be classified as brain dead implying the irreversible loss of all functions of the brain, Dr. Hijazi noted that the following parameters must be applied: Sufficient time must elapse to ensure that the patient has irrecoverable structural brain damage. If the patient is in a deep coma and is unresponsive and unresponsive, unable to breathe spontaneously if the respiratory machine is turned off for ten minutes, and has not taken any drugs to interfere with his level of consciousness or with his ability to breathe, he is considered by medical standards to be brain dead. Dr. Hijazi and Dr. Kurdi added one very important criterion to the preconditions which must all be met. "The EEG should not show any brain activity, they said. "The measures we have adopted are the most stringent in the world. The final criterion has been added so that the population in Jordan will realise that the diagnosis of brain death is not to be taken lightly," added Dr. Hijazi.

In fact, the tests have to be carried out by three specialists including a neurologist or a neurosurgeon. If there are any doubts about either the diagnosis or the criteria, the patient's life support system must be



Dr. Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat

continued. According to both Dr. Hijazi and Dr. Kurdi, after the first clinical and EEG testing, the patient will be reconnected to the machine, if repeat testing confirms a dead brain, death will be declared legally. A death certificate will be issued, "which is an ethical way of making it clear that any continued ventilation (to allow organ donation) does not constitute 'life'," said Dr. Kurdi.

Organ transplants

The paper submitted by Dr. Hijazi and Dr. Kurdi at last year's conference confirmed that a patient with irreversible brain damage is considered dead and therefore, his organs can be transplanted.

Nevertheless, confusion and conflict arose among physicians, lawyers and religious men when the first heart transplant took place in Jordan. "People questioned whether it was possible to claim brain death and thereby death, and to take a beating heart from one patient and put it in another," explained Dr. Kurdi.

Dr. Da'oud Hanania, director general of the Royal Medical Services, recalled his first heart transplant operation. He had to consult both religious and legal authorities after the established



Dr. Ashraf Al Kurdi

parameters and circumstances were confirmed to constitute irreversible brain death. "There was some expected debate but I received the blessings to proceed," he said.

Dr. Hanania had to consult religious authorities because in order to take an organ from a patient, the patient must be declared dead, and at the same time be connected to a life support system to ensure that the recipient receives the organ in good condition.

"It is not enough for science to judge. Scientists must be supported by the Koran and the Prophet's teachings," said Mr. Mohammad Shaqra, head of Al Aqsa Mosque at the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs. Dr. Khayyat noted that according to Sharia law, "a person with no function cannot be killed." However, since dead brain cells cannot be repaired, he said that if three preconditions are met, physicians can make use of a clinically brain dead patient's organs. "Organs cannot be taken unless there is complete evidence that the patient will not live or be cured from his illness. Physicians must do all possible to cure the patients, and permission must be taken from the family to remove the life support system," he said. "The life support system can be

removed if all hope and chance is gone, even though life and death is in the hands of God and no person can end another person's life," said Dr. Khayyat. "But as long as the patient is on a life support system, he or she can be considered to be alive, even if he or she is brain dead," he added. "I do not consider a patient dead if he has lost the functions of his brain or is considered brain dead," stated Dr. Khayyat. The laws of Sharia continued to apply to his family, for example a wife of a patient cannot get married again, he said.

Mr. Shaqra said that the final say as to whether the system is to be removed or not rests with the relatives of the patient. If prior to death the patient requests the system to be removed and the relatives approve, then physicians are allowed to turn off the life support system. Similarly, Dr. Hanania said that organ transplants can only be done with the consent of the family or with the prior consent of the patient.

Importance of early diagnosis

Physicians feel that early diagnosis of brain death is important for a number of reasons other than the need for transplants. They stated the enormous physical and emotional burden placed on the staff and relatives, setting priorities for patient care in the intensive care unit, the very high cost of keeping such patients in the unit as well as medico-legal considerations.

Overall, men of science and men of religion have reached somewhat of a consensus. If physicians fulfill the stringent measures prior to declaring an individual clinically brain dead, then the life support system can be turned off and organs donated. "Sharia goes in line with medicine as far as it advances and as far as knowledge is reached," said Dr. Shaqra.

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No room for surprise

THE stabbing death of an Israeli settler in the Gaza market earlier this week is the latest in a series of such acts of armed resistance by individuals or small groups of people. During the past year, such acts seem to have increased proportionately to the general disillusionment with the possibility of achieving Palestinian national rights through a diplomatic initiative. It is noteworthy to recall the results of a public opinion poll conducted in the West Bank and Gaza earlier this summer, which indicated that about 60 per cent of the Palestinians there thought that "armed struggle" is the most effective way to resolve the Palestine problem. Only about seven per cent thought diplomatic action was the best way to proceed.

The trend that continues to emerge, among both Palestinians and Israelis, is a trend towards violence and militarism. Perhaps this is inevitable. Perhaps it is the logical culmination of a process of communal strife that will only be resolved when violence has been practised for many decades, without achieving the goals of either side.

When the coalition government in Israel is headed by the Likud leader Mr. Shamir next month, we are likely to see an escalation of Israeli colonisation, which will no doubt be reciprocated by more incidents of Palestinian resistance. Many would argue that occasional stabbings of Israelis will not resolve the Palestinian problem. That is probably correct. But to the Palestinians living under Israeli occupation, armed resistance is likely to become increasingly attractive, particularly if diplomatic efforts remain unproductive and the Likud-led coalition intensifies its colonisation of the occupied territories.

We should be aware of these trends, so as not to be surprised by new and more daring acts of armed resistance. The compelling challenge for the Palestinian leadership and the Arab World as a whole will be to make sure that the resistance activities of the Palestinians are not exploited by Israel and its Atlantic rim apologists as an excuse to apply the sorts of heavy-handed policies that the world has so clearly condemned in places such as South Africa.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Confronting Israeli media campaign

A Jordanian press delegation is at present visiting Syria for talks on bolstering Jordanian-Syrian cooperation in the field of information. This visit is bound to increase cohesion among citizens of both countries and lend extra support for the struggle against the Israeli conspiracies and current attempts for imposing foreign hegemony on the Arab Nation. This cooperation in the fields of press and information is bound to lay the basis for constructing a pan-Arab information strategy, capable of confronting Israel's propaganda campaigns and countering Zionist falsehoods and harmful campaigns against the Arab countries before the world public opinion. At present, Syria is being exposed to a ferocious Zionist campaign in Europe and other parts of the world and is being accused of being involved in the recent terrorist attacks on French targets. In this situation, the Arab media should not remain idle at all, but should rather take proper action to confront Israel's media war and the Arabs should embark on implementing a joint strategy in information fields, capable of deterring the enemy from further campaigns. Syrian-Jordanian information cooperation is a constructive step leading to enhancing of Arab stands against their common enemies.

Al Dustour: False accusations against Arabs

THE Arab ambassadors to France recently boycotted an international fair held in Marseilles following in the footsteps of the large Arab community now living in France. They did that in protest against a wide-scale campaign being launched against Arab nationals in France who are being accused of collaboration in the recent terrorist attacks in Paris. There is a strong campaign directed against the Arabs and Muslims in France at present, and extremist groups are associating Islam with the criminal attacks in the French capital. But the French government, along with well-informed and liberal political groups in France are well aware of the false accusation, and are committed to their firm stand vis-a-vis terrorism and with regard to the Arab issues and Franco-Arab relations. In fact, the French government has stood firm in the face of United States campaigns against Libya and opposed the American raid on that country last April. Above all French groups that harbour hostile attitudes towards the Arabs have no shred of evidence that Arabs or Muslims are linked to terrorist actions in France, and besides Jordan along with all Arab countries have condemned such actions committed against innocent people. We hope that France and the French public opinion would not change their position with regard to Arab just causes, and we hope that France will continue to maintain strong ties with the Arab World.

Sawt Al Shaab: Beirut flare-up hurts Arab cause

THE new flare-up of fighting in Beirut opens up anew the prospect of escalating the factional conflict, and also the civil war in the whole of Lebanon. The deterioration of the security situation in Beirut also is bound to render futile any efforts to conduct political action for ending the war and bringing about reconciliation. As the factions escalate their attacks on one another's positions, the Israeli forces continue to mass troops and armour and extend more support for the Israeli-backed Lebanese militia in the South of the country. Reports from the South indicate that the Israelis and their Lebanese agents are actually preparing for a large offensive which might usher in a new cycle of violence and bloodshed, and ensure a further period of occupation of Lebanese territory for the Israelis and their allies. The Israelis are also massing forces in the Bekaa Valley in confrontation with the Syrian army; and this opens up a new danger not for Lebanon alone but also for other neighbouring countries. Observers do not rule out the possibility of an all out confrontation between the Syrians and the Israelis on the Golan Heights and the Lebanese territory, and for this reason, the Lebanese factions should now join their ranks and bolster their ranks in confrontation with the common enemy. They should first end all internal conflicts that can only benefit the Israeli enemy.

Time to count our blessings

Dr. Waleed Sa'di

WHILE it is incumbent on all good citizens to speak out on any issue which has a redeeming social, economic or political value, it is equally the responsibility of all good and fair minded peoples to take stock of the good and positive in their respective societies as well and accord them their due.

It has become the established practice and tradition for journalists everywhere to identify and acknowledge only the negative, shortcomings and evils in their societies. I contend and respectfully submit that such a behaviour on the part of journalists, writers and commentators is essentially incomplete and therefore unfair. Fair play requires of all of us to be balanced in our judgments and call a spade a spade whether it is negative or positive.

In this context, accounting for Jordan is to be had, there is no better beginning than with His Majesty King Hussein, whose positive attributes are better known to those who have direct contact with him. And it would be presumptuous on my part not to note some of them here and now. Suffice it to recognise and acknowledge that our King is first and foremost a populist monarch who feels more at ease with a soldier than with a general, rarely says or believes in the word No, whose compassion and magnanimity has touched the hearts of many and saved the lives of some, and whose wisdom has assured our country stability and

harmony among its citizens. As a leader, King Hussein is neither dogmatic nor doctrinaire which is a great blessing for all of us in this part of the world. Over and above the foregoing, King Hussein has a big heart, prone more to love than to hate and vengeance.

Then one may proceed further and enter the domain of the mundane. How can we be forgetful and unappreciative, for example, of the fact that our streets, parks, neighbourhoods are relatively free of crime. While we may take this phenomenon of crime-free society in stride and for granted, we must remind ourselves over and over again that our situation is the envy of many developed countries about which we find ourselves romanticising. It is indeed a great feeling to know that you and I together with our children and loved ones can walk up and down our streets and return to our homes in the middle of the night without fear of being molested, robbed or assaulted. The sight of our armed sons at the helm of security vehicles roaming our neighbourhood streets gives us all a sense of security and safety denied to many more advanced metropolises.

On face value, many of us may reject the sight of militarism in our cities, towns or villages as reminiscent of a curfew or state of siege. However on a second thought, many of us would prefer such sightings in lieu of the kind of fear and anxiety that we all experience when visiting the great

city of New York for example. I suspect that the population of that great American city would welcome the augmentation of police presence on their streets if they could only afford it. In our country Jordan, our governments, past and present, have always opted for maximum security even at the cost of other vital services and utilities.

Organically linked with the issue of security and safety are other matters related to drugs and drug addiction, rape, kidnapping, etc., which are all relatively absent from our midst. One can go on and on describing our blessings related to safety and security for they are abundant and known to all of us who live in this country.

Freedom has many manifestations and come in varied forms and shapes. On the top of the list is religious freedom. Thank God we not only have and enjoy religious freedom but enjoy as well religious tolerance — unrivalled in our region. Secondly, economic freedom, it must be admitted is the corner stone on which all the other forms and manifestations of freedoms rest and flourish. And as our economy in Jordan is essentially a free economy, with the most recent governmental decisions extending further the privatisation of the economy, we can all rejoice in this state of affairs and hope to erect thereon the remaining aspects of the edifice of general freedoms. Many developing countries have already registered praise for our

economic experiment and have opted to emulate it as a successful model for economic development. Suffice it to note that while we still have poverty that must be excised and uprooted, our country is mostly a country of middle class.

Social freedoms are also abundant among our midst with our traditions and religious codes of conduct being the only limitations on what we may or may not do in our social life. Some of our laws have codified some of our traditions and religious tenets and therefore enjoy massive public support.

As for our political development, obviously there is a great deal yet to be done as we are still on the long road towards perfecting, for example, our parliamentary system and the establishment of national political parties whose allegiance and motivation are for the betterment of life in Jordan. Therefore, all Jordanian women and men of good will yearn for the day when we all enter the threshold of sound parliamentary system based on equally sound and responsible political parties. Concurrently, we, for the most part, are appreciative of the advancement realised in the direction of perfecting our political development. Let's all remember and acknowledge that at least in this country there is a relative tolerance for ideas and the expression thereof in such a degree which is not found in our region. We have eliminated

torture, improved prison conditions and accorded our citizens their natural right to enter and leave this country with minimum hindrance and complete freedom. We don't apply the capital punishment lightly and we certainly don't apply it for economic crimes, a policy which is in accordance with the standard set by the U.N. system especially the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

One can go on and on in giving recognition and credit for the Jordanian achievements in education, medical services and social security. In spite of our meagre resources, we have succeeded in providing our citizens a reasonably good educational system at all levels including the university level. Certainly there is a great deal to be done in this vein especially in assuring more fairness in processing applications for higher education. In fact some experts in contemporary education have suggested that the whole "Tawjithi" programme is archaic and urgently needs a general overhaul. Be that as it may, Jordan has leaped forward a great deal in its quest for a better standard of education. For this much we must be thankful and appreciative.

Medical service is relatively satisfactory and all classes of Jordanians have access to satisfactory or good medical services. The idea floating now on the Jordanian medical scene to the effect that a national medical

insurance is in the pipeline is indeed most encouraging. This idea appears to be in keeping with the general privatisation of the economy policy. I believe that a policy when applied to medical services could upgrade substantially the standard of medical services in Jordan. Nowadays, only the rich can profit from the high excellence of Jordanian medical insurance could assure access to the best in Jordanian medicine to the poorest among us. It would be useful to learn from the Canadian experiences in this area of public services and perhaps one day we can emulate it.

In the realm of social security, admittedly there is more to be done. We still have among our midst poor people who need more support and assistance. Public housing needs to be strengthened and expanded, as many of our poor citizens still live in sub-standard housing. Nevertheless credit must be given to what is already being done.

To summarise, the overall quality of life in Jordan is pleasant, good and more than satisfactory. This is not to suggest that all is perfect and nothing more could be done. To be honest with ourselves, one has to admit that there is still a great deal to be done and accomplished. But fairness requires that we acknowledge what has already been accomplished and done. That's all that I ask for in this humble article.

Shultz' Africa tour coincides with anger over U.S. policy

By David Cray
The Associated Press

NAIROBI, Kenya — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz makes his first official visit to black Africa next month at a time when American foreign policy has become a favourite punching bag for the region's leaders.

In speeches, at summit conferences, in editorials and newscasts, African statesmen and commentators depict President Ronald Reagan's administration as a friend of South Africa's white rulers, an obstacle to independence for Namibia, and an intruder in Angola's civil war.

The critics range from Soviet-supported strongmen like Ethiopia's Mengistu Haile Mariam to relative moderates like Archbishop Desmond Tutu, the black leader of South Africa's Anglican church.

"I wouldn't call it an anti-African attitude, I'd call it an anti-Reagan administration attitude," said Mansour Khalid, a former foreign minister of Sudan.

"Almost everyone in Africa realises the United States can be an important partner," Khalid said in an interview in Nairobi. "They hope these policies will not persist."

Overshadowed by the verbal onslaught is the vast, multifaceted American presence on the continent — as an investor, a military ally, a provider of aid. Some of the government leaders who unanimously condemned U.S. policy at the Organisation of African Unity's summit meeting in July provide facilities to U.S. troops in return for military assistance. Others accept U.S. economic assistance and emergency food donations.

But only rarely in recent months — as opposition to U.S. policies in southern Africa intensified — has an African leader spoken out in defence of Washington.

One of the few to do so was President Samuel Doe of Liberia, who has sought to maintain close ties with the United States despite occasional American criticism of his human rights record.

Returning from last month's Non-Aligned Movement summit conference in Zimbabwe, where the United States was a prime rhetorical target, Doe said: "My knowledge of non-alignment is that we are not for either the West or the East, but surprisingly the U.S. was attacked openly by many of my colleagues. It left me with no alternative but to reply by defending the U.S."

Doe's office said Reagan later sent a message of congratulations.

Zimbabwe, in contrast, has been sparing repeatedly with Washington. The conflict was dramatised by former U.S. president Jimmy Carter's walkout July 4 when Zimbabwean Youth Minister David Karimanzira denounced U.S. policy during an independence day reception given by the U.S. embassy in Harare.

The U.S. State Department subsequently suspended the allocation of \$13.5 million in aid to Zimbabwe, two-thirds of the total earmarked for the country in the 1986 fiscal year.

"The Reagan administration looks at the world as a stage and sees America as the principal actor," said Zimbabwe's government-controlled Herald newspaper in a Sept. 6 editorial. "Cowboy tactics have been the cornerstone of its foreign policy and double standards its

trademark." Neither Zimbabwe nor Liberia is on Shultz' tentative itinerary, which includes Senegal, the Ivory Coast, Kenya, Zambia, South Africa, Botswana, Zaire, Cameroon and Nigeria.

The three facets of U.S. policy most bitterly criticised in Africa concern the continent's strife-torn south:

— The Reagan administration's reluctance to impose tough economic sanctions against South Africa to force an end to apartheid, exemplified by Reagan's decision to veto sanctions approved by Congress. Tutu, among others, has been infuriated by this stance, complaining of the U.S. government's "extraordinary capacity for backing the wrong horse."

America's insistence that independence for South-West Africa, the South African-ruled territory also known as Namibia, be linked to the withdrawal of an estimated 25,000 Cuban troops from neighbouring Angola.

— U.S. military support for UNITA, the rebel movement of Jonas Savimbi which is fighting Angola's Marxist government.

The aid for UNITA "places the United States clearly in league with South Africa in fomenting instability in the region," Botswana Vice President Peter Mmusi said after Savimbi visited Washington earlier this year.

Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda, who is expected to meet with Shultz, has said the United States would turn Angola into another Korea, with an American half in the south and a Soviet half in the north.

Hilary Ng'weno, an influential Kenyan journalist, said in an editorial in his weekly Review magazine that the U.S. support for Savimbi "is the first time on the African continent that the American government has publicly committed itself to the overthrow of a legitimate government through financial and military support of a rebel movement."

"The implications of this kind of move are frightening in the extreme," Ng'weno wrote. "It is right and proper that African nations and all friends of Africa should impress upon the Reagan administration the folly of its new policy."

The United States contributed about \$1 billion in aid in fiscal 1986 to sub-Saharan Africa and is considering a further infusion to help countries in the south lessen their economic dependence on South Africa. The United States also was by far the largest donor of food to Ethiopia during the 1984-85 famine despite misgivings about the Marxist government's resettlement programmes.

"Is the freedom which millions of Third Worlders are hungering and thirsting for the same freedom which President Reagan and the American economic and political establishment promise to deliver?" the daily Nation, Kenya's leading newspaper, asked in an editorial.

"Evidently not. The Western establishment promises only 'human rights' and 'democracy,' only political or ideological abstractions, whereas in the Third World the freedom which is direly lacking is much more basic, namely freedom from hunger, ignorance and disease."



Britons divided over consequences of Thatcherism

By Brian Mooney
Reuters

LONDON — Britons cannot make up their minds whether Thatcherism has ruined their economy or put it back on its feet.

Has Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher set North irrevocably against South and created a permanent class of poor and unemployed? Or has her strong medicine set in motion an economic revolution and laid the foundations for real prosperity?

The debate has intensified with the likelihood of elections next year in which the opposition Labour Party and Social Democratic-Liberal alliance will focus their campaigns vigorously on Thatcher's economic management since she came to power in 1979.

With many analysts forecasting a spate of bad economic news over the next few months, underpinned by an incipient sterling crisis, her opponents could have plenty to shout at.

But supporters say the Conservative leader has made industry leaner and more competitive, broken the stranglehold of trade unions, halted profligate public spending and above all revived a free enterprise culture.

They point to a sharp reduction in inflation to a current annual rate of 2.4 per cent and to five years of uninterrupted growth. They say many of the 88 per cent of the workforce with jobs have never had it so good.

Opponents say Thatcher has squandered golden opportunities by failing to reinvest earnings from North Sea oil in new industries. And she stands accused of hastening the collapse of the country's manufacturing base by closing industry with record high interest rates.

They call her uncaring, throwing millions out of work and creating divisions within society that may never be healed.

Thatcher believes her critics have built a myth out of oil, forgetting that even when prices were buoyant total oil earnings never accounted for more than five per cent of gross domestic product (GDP).

By her own standards, however, Thatcher has failed on at least one major front. Not even she would have predicted in 1979 that seven years later the number of jobs in Britain would have risen threefold to stand today at a

record 3.2 million.

She has sought to shift the burden of guilt by arguing that it is industry and business, not government, which creates jobs.

The economy in Thatcher's Britain has also failed to match performances in more powerful industrial nations like Japan, West Germany and the United States which have succeeded in stemming inflation without a runaway surge in unemployment.

But Thatcher counters by saying that she inherited a sick economy which had to be shamefully bailed out in 1976 by the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Steel has pulled back from a one billion sterling loss in 1980-81 to within sight of a small profit this year. The state-owned coal and rail industries are also starting to pay their way.

New legislation, including obligatory strike ballots, has curbed trade union power and in the first seven months of the year Britain recorded its lowest level of strikes since 1939.

Productivity, has risen, by as much as 22 per cent in manufacturing industries.

The shift in the industrial base means that manufacturing now accounts for only one quarter of GDP compared to just under 30 per cent in 1979.

Thatcher's critics also maintain that her government has engaged in deceitful inconsistency in its economic policies.

They say the government has stealthily abandoned strict money control to fuel a pre-election boom and has quietly reverted to central bank intervention in defence of a professed belief in riding with market forces.

In scale, Thatcher's policies have had a profound impact on the economy, little short of revolutionary.

Her programme of denationalisation will have transferred two fifths of the state sector of the economy into private hands by the end of next year after the stock market flotations of British Gas, British Airways and British Airports Authority.

There have been big shakeouts in industries left in state control. Three major conglomerates, coal, steel and rail, have shed almost 300,000 jobs since Thatcher came to power.

North Sea oil has largely cushioned the shock but with oil revenues set to decline from falling prices and dwindling reserves Britain is being forced to survive increasingly on commerce, financial services, light industry and tourism.

The squeeze is driving Britain's trade balance into the red.

Thatcher's supporters say a decline in the old smoke stack industries — shipbuilding, steel and coal — was inevitable in any case and that the days when British goods dominated world trade were drawing to a close long before she came to power.

But the acceleration since 1979 has made wastelands and cut a swathe of poverty and unemployment through much of the midlands, northern England, Scotland and Wales.

It has become common in Thatcher's Britain to refer to the point between the privileged and poor halves of the country at a town just 24 kilometres north of

the capital. But the divides are not only north and south.

Inner cities have crumbled while suburbs have flourished, and grain farmers in east England have prospered on the back of generous European Community (EC) subsidies while dairy and sheep farmers in the West have had to struggle to make a living.

Those caught on the wrong side of the divides have found it difficult to switch lanes.

Enormous disparities in house prices — a terraced house in a Welsh mining village might sell for £5,000 (\$7,250) while the equivalent in a town in the southeast would fetch £50,000 (\$70,250) — have trapped many families in the poverty belt.

Lack of investment in infrastructure has resulted in widespread decay.

According to official figures, nearly 20 per cent of houses provided by local and state authorities are substandard or in need of repair and 20 per cent of the nation's primary schools are housed in unmodernised buildings over 80 years old.

Many hospitals are in a chronic state of repair.

Government figures show that the number of Britons living on or just below the poverty line has increased from 11.5 million in 1979 to 16.3 million today.

Life for the rich has improved on many counts, and if Thatcher has created a new class of poor the over-flowing restaurants in London suggest she has also created a new and broader class of rich.

Sociologists say there is more upward mobility in society than at any time in modern British history apart from periods of social upheaval during wartime.

High tax rates have been cut. Those with capital have been able to increase their money threefold by investing in the longest running bull market in equities since World War II and cashing in on a property boom in the prosperous south.

With wages rising at a current average annual rate of 7.5 per cent, three times inflation, the economy is now primed for what could be the biggest consumer boom since Thatcher came to power.

As unemployment hit another record in August, motor trade officials reported new car sales at an all time high — but with British auto makers getting a lower share than ever before.

Withholding funds in political squabbles creates crisis for U.N.

By Lee Lescaze
The Wall Street Journal

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. — When the U.N. General Assembly convened Sept. 16 one of its most urgent tasks was to determine how to save the United Nations from bankruptcy.

The world organisation faces the most serious financial crisis in its history, and if no relief is found in the next few months, it could be unable to meet its payroll. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar said last week, "It isn't clear whether the United Nations will remain solvent throughout the remainder of the year."

No one knows exactly what insolvency would mean, but it could bring extensive layoffs, cancellation of meetings and a halt to U.N. publications.

At U.N. headquarters, the crisis is resented as the latest evidence of nations' disregard for the organisation born with such high hopes for international cooperation 41 years ago. Patricia Ruedas, U.N. undersecretary for management, says: "If you believe that international cooperation is a valid approach, then you must support the U.N. effort."

Expressing displeasure

If member states promptly paid the contributions they have agreed to, the U.N. wouldn't have a financial problem. Instead, for a variety of reasons, major contributors, principally the U.S. and the Soviet Union, have chosen to express their unhappiness with the U.N. by withholding funds. Mr. Perez de Cuellar wrote last year that the root of the crisis is "lack of agreement among member states on how to finance and utilise the organisation and for what purposes."

For better or worse, the U.N.'s current cash crisis is a watershed in its history. "This will transform the organisation," says Norway's ambassador, Tom Vraalsen, who chairs an 18-member group appointed to study improvements in the management of the U.N.

The group's recommendations will be one of the major issues before the General Assembly. The proposals aim to give member states much more control over the budget process, cut the bureaucracy and eliminate many of the fringe conferences and

meetings that generate little but paperwork at high cost.

"This is the first time in its 40 years that the organisation has taken a close look at itself," Mr. Vraalsen says. "The question is: Will we be given the time we need?"

3 years needed

He says it will take three years to turn the U.N. into a streamlined organisation that will meet with more favour from its present critics. The problem is that those critics, notably the Heritage Foundation, former U.S. ambassador to the U.N. Jeane Kirkpatrick and other conservative Americans, have so successfully generated anti-U.N. sentiment in Congress that the U.S. could push the U.N. into insolvency as early as the end of this year.

Washington has been shrinking this year's contribution to the United Nations so swiftly and sharply that staffers here joke the U.N. will end up owing the U.S. money.

Financial delinquencies by the Soviet Union and its supporters in past years, totalling more than \$300 million, ate up the lion's share of U.N. reserves, leaving the organisation particularly vulnerable to the denial of funds by Washington, long the U.N.'s major contributor. A final decision hasn't been made, but the U.S. appears likely to provide only about half its \$210 million assessment for this year.

Members of Congress have hacked away money for a number of reasons, reflecting their unhappiness with issues ranging from Soviet U.N. employees allegedly giving their salaries to their government to the policies of the U.N. information department.

The U.S., which is assessed 25 percent of the U.N.'s \$841 million in projected 1986 expenditures, also wants more bang for its buck. The single largest cut comes from a measure introduced by Sen. Nancy Kassebaum, a Kansas Republican, that requires the U.S. to withhold 20 per cent of its contribution unless the U.N. adopts weighted voting so that those who pay the most have the most votes.

Crisis over politics

As the Kassebaum



amendment indicates, the U.N.'s crisis is at heart political, not financial. For years, the richest nations, which under the assessment system make the largest contributions, haven't supported the U.N. budget. Last year, for example, nations that provide more than 79 per cent of U.N. revenue (including the U.S., the Soviet Union, Japan and most of Western Europe) abstained or voted against the 1986 budget.

"This is what cannot continue: budgets that aren't supported by the major contributors," says Patricia Ruedas, undersecretary for administration and management.

The nay-sayers have two general complaints. They object that the 159-member General Assembly can increase spending without regard to the budget. Critics like to cite the decision to build a \$73.5 million conference centre in Addis Ababa at the same time that famine was devastating Ethiopia. And U.S. critics like to note that the U.S. pays 25 per cent of any sudden budget add-on, like it or not.

Secondly, the major powers have political objections to certain U.N. activities. For example, the

U.S. withholds from the U.N. programmes relating to Palestinians and the South West Africa People's Organisation, while the Soviets withhold sums for U.N. peacekeeping forces in the Middle East. On top of these problems, the U.N. cash flow suffers because many nations chronically pay late.

Austerity measures

The U.N. already has taken measures to cut about \$60 million from its budget this year. New hiring was stopped. Cost-of-living increases were indefinitely postponed. Most salaries were frozen. Travel has been cut 20 per cent, a number of conferences were canceled and publications were eliminated.

Offices at U.N. headquarters now are cleaned every other day instead of daily. Air conditioners are run at higher temperatures. No longer do senior staff members get pitchers of ice water delivered to their offices. Likewise, water isn't waiting on every meeting table. The fountain was kept dry all summer, saving \$10,000 in electricity.

"There isn't a lot we can do. The

organisation is extremely labour intensive," says Mr. Forao. Salaries are about 80 per cent of the budget.

U.S. to blame?

If the U.S. contribution for this year is below about \$140 million, as now seems likely, the U.N. is in serious difficulty. A sudden round of layoffs or other drastic measures would anger many members and undoubtedly prompt proposals to move the organisation from New York or to close it down. The U.S. would take a large share of the blame, souring its relations with many nations to which the U.N. is a very important organisation.

The Reagan administration is in an awkward position. State Department officials are lobbying Congress quietly to give the U.N. a chance and worrying that the anti-U.N. momentum on Capitol Hill is too strong to resist. U.S. officials hope that if the General Assembly adopts changes as outlined by the group Mr. Vraalsen heads, they will be able to convince Congress that the U.N. has turned its back on the free-spending days of the 1970s in favour of budgetary sobriety. They also hope they will be able to persuade members of Congress that the U.N. is becoming less of a forum for bashing Washington and more of a place that the U.S., as well as other nations, can use to its advantage.

Randa Habib's Corner

Open-air concert

I WAS sincerely moved the other day when a gas-delivery-truck passing near my home used music instead of the usual horn to attract people's attention. I fantasised that the gas-delivery-man must have heard about our complaints and became aware of the disturbance caused by the use of horns so he thought of this "more civilised" way to alert customers.

In fact our street seems more like a concert hall these days with different musical instruments forming an orchestra without a conductor. The ice-cream vans play music, different tunes for different flavours, and different anthems for various ice-cream shops. With time, one becomes an expert in what time calls for what. There are also the mobile shops. Everything from detergents and car-shampoo to watermelons and toilet paper. They too have their music tunes.

However, people who don't have musical ears and who don't differentiate between chamber music, quartets or solos would have problems recognising varying tones. Imagine rushing out for a tone you thought of the gas-delivery-van to find out it is the ice-cream's van. So, start training your ears to music because it seems that soon, after the gas, the ice-cream and after the detergents distribution cars, furuitures, cars, vegetables, and who knows, even clothes would be sold at your door-steps and to the sound of music.

As for noise pollution, one need not worry. The Ministry of Health has created a special department to study noise pollution and its effects on people. Soon a law will be issued to protect people from noise. This law foresees that any noise 100 decibels will not be acceptable and will be considered an offence.

By the way, human voice has an intensity of 55 decibels, thunder, 70 decibels.

I wonder what will be the intensity of noise produced by loud-speakers on top of the delivery trucks?

Tokyo geisha continues in a disappearing profession

By Eric Hall

Reuter

TOKYO — Tamatara is a geisha, one of the few women left who keep alive a 200-year-old style of entertainment offering men cultured and refined companionship.

For 23 years, she has nightly applied her intricate makeup, her fine silk kimono and soothed tired men with the traditional geisha mix of dance, music, drink and witty conversation.

Tamatara is her professional name. She was born Eiko Matsubara in the far south of Japan, the daughter of a farming and fishing family.

At the age of 23 her heart was captured by a film of the romantic life of a geisha and she joined the profession.

"I've always enjoyed it, most of it anyway," she said in an interview in a Tokyo cafe.

"But once I wanted to get

married and didn't, partly because of the job. Also some guests are a pain when they get drunk."

The geisha appeared in Japan in 1751, modelled on the courtesans of leading warriors and court nobility.

In a society in which women were restricted to child bearing and obedience, the geisha's role was to provide men with the elegant female company they refused to accept from their own wives.

A very wealthy man may still take and support a geisha mistress, but such a contract has always been more a private than a commercial affair, and one that could lead to marriage.

There are perhaps 15,000 geishas left in the whole of Japan. In the 1920s there were about 80,000.

The main reasons for the decline are that they are so expensive to hire, and being a

geisha demands commitment. "Most of the clients are wealthy businessmen and politicians. We even get cabinet ministers," said Tamatara.

Tamatara said she can earn about 800,000 yen (\$5,000) a month, a very good wage in Japan.

"But to be a geisha requires very hard work and you need a lot of expensive kimonos. The young people don't like that and it's much easier for them to earn money in soap land," she said, using the generic term for Japanese brothels.

Tamatara, who is 46, laughs. "Oh yes, we have one youngster in the group. She is 37," she says.

She and her colleagues command about 30,000 yen (\$200) from each guest for an evening's entertainment.

Japanese prostitutes in Tokyo charge around the same for two hours of rather less cultured entertainment.

The guests pay the restaurant where the geishas perform. The restaurant is attached to the geisha registry, which controls the local flower town, the name for the old geisha districts in Tokyo and other cities.

The diminutive Tamatara says the geisha will never disappear. "There will always be Japanese men who will come to the geisha," she said.

Sitting in an informal skirt and black T-shirt, smoking a cigarette and sipping American coffee, she hardly fits the classic geisha idea of the fragile China doll.

But she proudly produces photographs of herself in one of the 100 and more kimonos she owns. Her wardrobe is worth at least 50 million yen (\$330,000).

Her transformation in costume is remarkable. The pictures could be of a different woman. In the eyes of Japanese tradition, the geisha is a different woman.

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Thailand wins 1st golds of games

Iranians take four medals in Greco-Roman wrestling

SEOUL, South Korea (Agencies) — Thai pistol shooters gave their nation its first two gold medals of the current Asian Games Sunday, and South Korea looked for a surge in the games' second week to overtake Japan as Asia's no. 2 sports power.

In Greco-Roman wrestling, Iran took four medals. In the heaviest category, 130 kilograms, Reza Sookhteh Sarayee won the gold medal, out-pointing Masaya Ando of Japan, 3-1. At 52 kilograms, Abdulkarim Kakahaji won the silver; at 62 kilograms, Ahmad Javan-Salehi took the bronze; and at 74 kilograms, Reza Andooz woo the silver.

Iran also won a medal in the 90 kilogramme category in weightlifting, as Darab Rishi took the bronze with a score of 330.0. Iraq's Atallah M. Abdullah won the silver medal in the same category with a score of 335.0.

Kuwait won a silver medal in the equestrian team jumping event, with 12.25 penalty points. Japan took the gold with only 5.00 penalty points, and South Korea won the bronze with 30.75.

The host Koreans raced away with two golds in cycling road races — including a men's 179.2-kilometre coast-to-coast nearly five hours — and added one gold each in Greco-Roman

the games, in wrestling.

With seven days left in the 16-day Asian Games, China had 58 golds, 47 silvers and 26 bronzes.

Japan had 38 golds, 40 silvers and 38 bronzes, and South Korea had a 28-25-37 score.

Pakistan's Olympic champion hockey team, after suffering a 2-1 first round upset by Malaysia last week, kept alive its chances for a fifth consecutive Asian Games gold by outlasting India 3-1 on two goals scored in extra time in the semifinals. Malaysia, meanwhile, lost 4-1 to South Korea in the other. The final is scheduled Monday.

Aside from the gold medals awarded, three more were virtually decided in yachting — one for the Pakistan pair of Mumir Sadiq and Mohammad Zakauallah, and two for South Koreans, including 13-year-old Park Chong-Woo.

Thailand's golds on the shooting range — with record-breaking scores — were its first in games shooting competition in 12 years, shooting officials said.

Thailand also became only the fourth country other than Asia's

big three — China, Japan and South Korea — to win a gold in these games. The Philippines has one in golf, Iran one each in

cycling and wrestling, and Hong Kong one in bowling.

Bangkok jewel trader Monop Panichpatikum won the men's standard pistol competition with a score of 573, breaking the Asian record of 571, and the Thai shooters won the event's team competition with a total of 1,705, smashing the Asian record.

Thailand's Peera Piromrama had the second best individual score of 571, but Asian rules limit each country to one individual medal in this event. Thus Japan's Mamoru Inagaki took the silver with 567 and Leong Shuhin of China won the bronze after a shoot-off with Park Jong-Kil of South Korea, who had tied him at 565.

In the team event, China was second with 1,684 and South Korea third with 1,679.

In the games' final shooting event, China's Zhang Weigan won the skeet shooting with 214 targets hit, including 194 in qualifying, tying the Asian Games record. China finished with 15 shooting golds to seven for South Korea, six for Japan and two for Thailand.

Japan's three wrestling winners were Atsuji Miyahara at 52 kilograms; Seichi Osumi at 62 kilograms; Yasutoshi Moriyma at 90 kilograms.



Dwight Evans... homered for Sox

Red Sox clinch tie

NEW YORK (AP) — Dwight Evans homered. Bruce Hurst pitched a six-hit shutout and the Boston Red Sox clinched at least a tie for the American League East championship Saturday with a 2-0 victory over the Toronto Blue Jays in Boston.

With just their second victory in six games, the Red Sox moved to within one game of clinching their first division title since 1975.

In other American League games Detroit beat New York 1-0 in 10 innings. Texas beat California 1-0. Chicago won both games of a double-header with Minnesota 5-2 and 4-3. Oakland won both halves of a double-header with Kansas City

Real Madrid tops 1st division

MADRID (R) — A stunning volley 15 minutes from time by Michel Gonzalez gave Real Madrid a 1-0 win over Real Sociedad last night and lifted the Spanish champions to the top of the First Division.

Real opened up a one-point gap over Barcelona, who was held to a 2-2 draw at Athletic Bilbao after being two goals ahead at halftime thanks largely to Gary Lineker.

The England striker picked up a pass from his Welsh colleague Mark Hughes in the 17th minute and sent over a dangerous cross, which Athletic defender Ismael Urbini could only push into his own net.

Severo minutes from the interval, Lineker scampered away from the half-way line and calmly chipped the ball over goalkeeper Buitrago to score his fourth league goal of the season.



Gary Lineker... scored twice

Athletic fought back in the second half and earned a point with a 47th-minute header by Jesus Liceranzu and a fierce

right-foot volley from Estanislao Argote after 65 minutes.

Real Sociedad's Welsh manager John Toshack saw his side defy the Real Madrid goal-scoring machine for 75 minutes at the Santiago Bernabeu Stadium before substitute Miguel Pardeza sent over a cross which was cleared only as far as Michel.

His blinding shot justified coach Leo Beenhakker's decision to replace Spanish World Cup striker Emilio Butragueno with Pardeza, but Real will need more than one goal on Wednesday when it takes on Young Boys Bern in the first round of the European Cup, trailing 1-0 from the away leg.

In the night's other match, Mexican striker Luis Flores scored two goals to help Sporting Gijon to a thrilling 4-3 win at Las Palmas which put it one point behind Barcelona.

McEnroe and Connors face off

SAN FRANCISCO (R) — Americans John McEnroe and Jimmy Connors will contest their 31st career match when they meet to battle for the title in the \$289,000 San Francisco Grand Prix tennis tournament.

The two last met in the final at Wimbledon in 1984, a match McEnroe won easily. McEnroe has won their last nine encounters. It will mark Connors' 152nd

career appearance in a final. He has won a record 105 Grand Prix titles.

McEnroe, seeded fourth, upset top seed and defending champion Stefan Edberg of Sweden 7-6 (7-5), 6-2 in Saturday night's semifinal.

In an earlier match, Connors, seeded second, beat third seeded Anders Jarryd of Sweden 6-7 (1-7), 6-1, 2-0 when the Swede retired with a crumple of a knee problem.

Edberg has never beaten McEnroe in their five career meetings and lost to him last week in the final of a Los Angeles Grand Prix tournament.

The first set Saturday night was closely contested with points won on the serve or first volley. Neither player could score more than two points off his opponent's serve as games progressed to 6-6 and the tiebreaker.

McEnroe broke earlier in the tiebreaker and took a 5-3 lead before Edberg could edge back to 5-5. But McEnroe won the next two points and the set with a brilliantly angled forehand crosscourt and service winner. "To come up with a shot like that and serve it out, really got my adrenaline pumping," said McEnroe afterward. McEnroe immediately broke Edberg at love to open the second set.

Both players produced strong serve and volley tennis until 4-2 when McEnroe broke Edberg's

the set 6-1.

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Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) announces the Boiler Island Tender Document, No. 51/86, for the Aqaba Thermal Power Station Stage II is available for purchase as of 27 September 1986. The tender consists of the supply, delivery, erection, testing and commissioning of two boiler units with all the auxiliaries.

It is expected that Arab, World Bank and international funding agencies will participate in financing the project. Procurement will be subject to the terms and conditions of the respective lending agencies.

Sealed tenders shall be submitted to the Secretary of the Tendering Committee before 10.00 a.m. Amman Time, 28 February, 1987 at the JEA offices in Amman. Tender documents are available from the address given below for a non-refundable fee of JD 1,000 payable to JEA for each set consisting of two copies of the tender documents.

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Libya to adopt barter system instead of money

ROME (AP) — Libya will replace money with a system of barter, Libyan television said last week.

The report quoted the Libyan News Agency JANA as saying that the system of barter will be adopted in accordance with Colonel Muammar Qadhafi "Green Book," where the Libyan leader has down his political philosophy.

"This will end dealings in money, which will become a unit of measurement only," the television quoted JANA as saying.

The report gave no further details and nor was it clear exactly when the changeover would take place.

Col. Qadhafi in the past has initiated a number of major upheavals in Libya's economy. In a surprise move in 1980, the government seized all money in bank accounts in excess of \$3,300.

The following year, the government shut down thousands of small food and clothing shops and replaced them with state-run supermarkets.

Nigeria restricts imports

LAGOS (AP) — Nigeria's military government has banned the import of sixteen items, including staple grains, vegetable oil, and certain manufactured goods, an official said.

The ban is aimed at reforming tariff and excise duties to encourage local industries and slow down inflation, said director of budget chief, Mr. Omowale Kuye.

The ban included imported rice, wheat and wheat products, maize and maize products, vegetable oil, bottled water, champagne and sparkling wine, jewellery and precious metals, gaming machines, plastic household items, fabrics, furniture and furniture products.

An earlier list of 74 items to be banned was reduced to 16 to discourage foreign currency trafficking, he said.

Nigeria's import bills rose sharply with the mid-1970s oil boom. A thriving black market sprang up to provide a flood of imported food, manufactured goods and luxury items to Africa's most populous state of about 100 million people.

The steady decline of the country's economy due to corruption, mismanagement and the fall in oil prices, combined with tighter import restrictions has slowed imports considerably in recent years, driving up prices.

Meanwhile Nigeria's naira depreciated by more than 66 per cent when the government held a foreign currency auction last week under a programme to promote economic recovery through an effective devaluation.

World faces uncertain economic outlook

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The world economy faces an uncertain outlook as policy makers struggle to sustain growth, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) said Sunday.

In its semi-annual world economic outlook, the IMF said growth in the first half of 1986 had been disappointing, though signs pointed to an improvement in coming months and next year.

It said uncertainties were great as the world economy adapted to a number of major changes: Large shifts in exchange rates, sharp falls in interest rates and energy prices, and the planned reduction in U.S. budget deficits.

While predicting slower growth for the full year than foreseen in its last report in April — 2.75 per cent instead of three per cent — the IMF said new data from West Germany and Japan showed signs of a much-needed upturn in those economies.

The trend towards swelling trade imbalances — the huge U.S. deficit and massive surpluses in West Germany and Japan — had been arrested by exchange rate changes over the last 18 months, it said.

But it added that the changes "will not be sufficient by themselves to restore a fully viable pattern of payments balances in the three largest countries."

The report stopped short of recommending specific economic policy measures.

The IMF detected progress on bringing fiscal deficits in line, a decline in real interest rates, and little risk of renewed inflation.

But it said heavily indebted developing countries needed strong export markets for their goods, and much of the progress on inflation could be traced to

economy with further deceleration in world output and trade.

The ministers "expressed concern over the deteriorating prospects for future growth," it added.

They called for a joint committee of ministers from poor and wealthy countries to review the debt problem and report next April on measures to remove obstacles to growth.

They are also seeking a further reduction of real interest rates and setting up a facility in the World Bank or IMF to create debt service ceilings linked to growth rates and export revenues.

The group of 24 met four blocks from a session at the U.S. Treasury Department where the ministers of seven wealthy countries tried to coordinate policies to achieve economic growth.

Finance ministers from 151 nations, both rich and poor, have assembled for the annual World Bank and IMF meetings running through next weekend.

Mr. Tesfaye Dinka, the Ethiopian finance minister and the chairman of the group of 24, at a news conference accused the wealthy countries of lacking "political will to face the debt issue very squarely and resolutely."

Growth in the developing world continued to drop in 1986, "with the result that the standard of living in these countries, already below its level a decade ago, has been further eroded," the communiqué said.

The major causes for this, it said, were decreased export earnings caused by the sharp drop in commodity prices including oil and "grossly inadequate inflows of financial resources from all

sources."

The ministers said in their communiqué that it is meaningless to talk about growth-oriented programmes "unless the net transfer of resources from the developing to the developed countries is reversed."

A document at the Group of 24 session said member countries are shipping more money to richer countries in the form of interest and debt repayments than they are taking in. They expect their payments to rise from \$121 billion in 1985 to \$139 billion this year and \$142 billion in 1987.

Rich nations fail to resolve major differences

The finance ministers from the world's richest nations pledged Saturday "close and continuous coordination" of economic policies to solve world problems, but they apparently failed to resolve their major differences on interest rates and dollar value.

The session marked the first time the world's seven leading industrialised nations had gathered to implement a coordination strategy devised at the economic summit this past May in Tokyo.

Finance leaders from the United States, Japan, West Germany, Britain, France, Canada and Italy met for more than 12 hours over two days behind closed doors at the U.S. Treasury Department.

The U.S. government, led by Treasury Secretary James Baker, had hoped to pressure Japan and West Germany to agree further cuts in interest rates to spur faster growth and provide more markets for U.S. products.

The 1½ page final statement, however, made no promise of

interest rate reductions. It noted instead that interest-rate declines that have already occurred have had beneficial effects for heavily indebted developing countries.

The statement did address America's biggest economic problem, its huge trade deficit. But it said that declines in the value of the dollar which have already occurred should begin "making an important contribution" toward correcting this deficit.

Mr. Baker, before the meeting, had warned that unless the Japanese and Germans were willing to do more to boost growth in their countries, the United States would be forced to push the value of the dollar lower still, an action opposed by U.S. allies.

In general, the joint statement said it believed the outlook for growth in 1987 was favourable, forecasting more jobs and low inflation, although it said unemployment would remain high in some countries.

The joint statement issued Saturday was in line with the predictions made by many observers who contended that the seven countries were so deeply divided on major points that they were unlikely to come up with a significant agreement like the one forged on Sept. 22, 1985.

That agreement, announced at the Plaza Hotel in New York, committed the United States, Japan, West Germany, Britain and France, to work in a coordinated effort to drive the value of the dollar lower.

Since that agreement, the dollar has fallen by about 35 per cent from its peak reached in 1985. The administration is counting on a weaker dollar to turn around the country's disastrous trade deficit.

In theory a decline in the dollar makes imports more expensive and less attractive to Americans while lowering the price of U.S. goods on overseas markets. However, the trade deficit has not shown any signs of improvement, sinking instead to a one-month record of \$16 billion in July.

Alarmed by the further deterioration in trade, Mr. Baker last week warned that Japan and West Germany would have to do more to stimulate world growth by slashing interest rates and driving the dollar lower, warning those two countries' policy.

But the Germans and Japanese rejected Mr. Baker's plan, contending that economic growth is already picking up in their countries and further lowering of the dollar could spark a new wave of inflation, their argument was joined in by other nations and apparently ended the day's meetings.

This effort at coordination was an idea crafted by Mr. Baker and sold to Mr. Reagan and then the other world leaders at the Tokyo summit. It involved a detailed surveillance exercise in which the countries reviewed economic developments such as a trade deficit for this year.

The procedure is supposed to help stabilize currency exchange rates since the value of a nation's currency is often influenced by such factors as interest rates, growth rates and trade deficits.

The meetings over two days were held under tight security in the Treasury Department. One of the countries met for a short time Friday and then, after lunch, five more hours on Saturday.

Reagan threatens to shut down government over budget

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President Reagan Saturday threatened to shut down the U.S. government this week unless Congress sends him a responsible budget for the next financial year.

The government's new financial year begins on Wednesday, and federal agencies cannot continue to operate unless their appropriations bills have been passed by Congress and signed by President Reagan.

The administration has estimated the new budget will have a deficit of over \$220 billion unless cuts are made.

Congress has not yet passed any of the government's appropriations and is working on one omnibus measure, known as a continuing appropriations bill, containing money for all the agencies.

President Reagan, in his weekly national radio address, said the legislation approved so far contained too much money for domestic projects he considered wasteful and not enough for defence. He said he would veto a budget unless it was responsible.

"Once again, the budget deadline finds Congress unable to produce a responsible budget," he said. "It's been many years since Congress has passed its appropriations on time."

Mr. Reagan's term under all other presidents combined.

He said the programmes Mr. Reagan wanted to cut were for education, health care and aid to farmers.

"Not even the Republicans supported your budget," Mr. Gray said.

Mr. Reagan said the appropriations bill passed by the Democrat-controlled House of Representatives contained several provisions he felt would undercut U.S. arms control negotiations in Geneva.

The House on Thursday voted for a ban on testing of nuclear weapons and anti-satellite weapons, a one-year delay on production of chemical weapons, and a requirement that Mr. Reagan continue to abide by the second Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty, which he has threatened to violate.

Senate approves tax overhaul

Meanwhile, the U.S. Senate gave final approval Saturday to the broadest tax overhaul in a generation, a bill that will cut taxes for most workers while paring some prized deductions and hoisting the burden on corporations.

The vote was 74-23. The victory

margin was even greater than the 292-136 vote by which the compromise swept through the House of Representatives on Thursday. President Ronald Reagan is expected to sign it into law in mid-October.

"Everyone can vote for this bill with pride," Senator Bob Packwood, chief Senate author of the legislation, said in closing debate. "You can go back to the coffee shops, textile mills, lumber mills and farms, hold your head high and say 'we did something good for America.'"

The bill cuts tax rates, hits those who have been legally dodging taxes, and closes off tax shelters. Mr. Packwood said. "Those three provisions alone are reason enough to vote for this bill."

Nevertheless, the debate was sprinkled with questions from both sides about whether the bill would damage sluggish economy and treat millions of people unfairly.

"Will the bill hurt?" Senator Packwood asked. "Will it make the economy grow more than if we do not change the tax code? No one knows. But as the old saying goes, 'no guts, no glory' (nothing ventured, nothing gained)."

"The president and we in the Congress must not indulge ourselves in any false illusions

that this tax bill will do anything to help solve our basic economic problems," said Senator David Boren, a Democrat. "It will further weaken our economy by making it harder for Americans to compete in world markets."

After going into effect in 1988, the bill will cut individual taxes by an average of 6.1 per cent. More than 20 million couples and individuals will pay more, and more than 6 million working-poor families will be taken off the income-tax rolls. Rates will be cut for most people.

The bill also eliminates many tax breaks for married couples and deductions in taxes that are currently offered for people who show medical and other expenses.

Many wealthy investors will be pulled back onto the tax rolls, including 30,000 with incomes over \$250,000 who paid zero. They will lose most tax-shelter opportunities. Tougher rules will require rich people and profitable corporations to pay some tax regardless of their legitimate deductions.

Corporations will pay an extra \$120 billion in federal taxes over the next five years. The investment credit, a job-creating incentive for businesses for most of the last 20 years, will end. Several special industry tax breaks

will be phased out.

Senate passage of the bill, the final stage in its passage, began in 1982 with introduction of a bill by two Democrats and a Republican for lower tax rates and fewer deductions. Mr. Reagan got behind the drive in 1985, after the union message and, in 1985, submitted a plan for radically overhauling the system.

Senator Paul Simon, also a Democrat, opposed the bill because — due to a majority opposition to a tax increase — it does nothing to reduce the budget deficit. "It is a mile to a dollar and an additional \$120 billion from industry... to increase the taxes of one-third of middle-class Americans and not spend a penny of it to reduce the deficit," Mr. Simon said.

Senators John Danforth and Carl Levin, two of those who made lengthy speeches against the measure, argued uneasily that it's not to be denied.

Senator Danforth said a more prevent company from using tax incentives to finance more productive and would be worth costs of investment, leaving them less competitive.

"The underlying message of the tax bill is that we are going to those who have the money," Danforth said.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, SEPT. 23, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Be alert to changes and new interests whereby you can get rid of conditions from the past. Be sure to give all companions praise now because they deserve it.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Get rid of that old system that prevents you from getting your fine talents across to others.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Show that you are thoughtful and kind. Do whatever will delight those you dwell with.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Get busy with daily routines and steer clear of an outside partner who is very limiting to you.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Don't waste time at small duties when you can devote it to more profitable matters.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Look into new outlets that can be more profitable in the future and bring you greater success.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Your personal goals can be gained with relative ease. Getting away from home for a while will help.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Let your friends be more aware of what you desire in life and they can be very helpful to you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) A new outlook on some public affair can be utilized for its betterment. Be philosophical.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Make new friends of real character and they can be of help to you. You can get great results.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You have to hand-dia a task that is puzzling. Be more enthused in dealing with your mate.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Be with a clever partner and forget that person who wastes so much of your time. Go along with new ideas.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Forget the world for now and go after personal aims that are more important. Delight your mate this evening.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be one of those very active and extraverted youngsters and be able to accomplish a great deal in life. One who will need a great deal of encouragement in order to best express self. The talents here are numerous, but your child should single out the best.

THE Daily Crossword

by H.E. Campbell

ACROSS

- 1 Harbor craft
- 2 Provides sustenance
- 3 Become satisfied
- 4 Peaks of Lahr
- 5 Consent
- 6 Later
- 7 Winglike structure
- 8 Ball park seating area
- 9 Cere
- 10 High seats
- 11 Utiles
- 12 Aware of
- 13 Kind of syrup
- 14 Name of a
- 15 Space
- 16 Play sponsor
- 17 Ecoone
- 18 Single thing
- 19 Withered
- 20 Sp. uncle
- 21 Love adornment
- 22 King Cole
- 23 Author Father
- 24 Coal mine
- 25 Most recent
- 26 Penalties
- 27 Fuel
- 28 Lesions
- 29 Kind of rubber
- 30 Film director
- 31 Frank
- 32 Cling
- 33 Fall sorry for one's sins
- 34 Tool sharpener
- 35 Light-hearted
- 36 Adamant
- 37 Grief person
- 38 Km
- 39 Ripose
- 40 Curt
- 41 Formerly

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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

DOWN

- 1 Bird
- 2 Congo river
- 3 Old record
- 4 Church spire
- 5 "Other" Teller character
- 6 Egg
- 7 Important periods
- 8 Study
- 9 Auto body
- 10 Customers
- 11 Rule, range
- 12 Fishing cord
- 13 Young men
- 14 Organ byline
- 15 Name in farm machines
- 16 Agents sports arena
- 17 Deaf ones
- 18 Stage whisper
- 19 Main artery
- 20 Certain group of people
- 21 Wipe out
- 22 Laviana
- 23 Nanny
- 24 Made bigger
- 25 abbr.
- 26 Bldg. city
- 27 Can. peninsula
- 28 Attraction
- 29 Whitewash
- 30 Semi-precious stone
- 31 Play parts
- 32 Adjust a clock
- 33 Minutes
- 34 Modern title
- 35 Haul
- 36 Engage
- 37 Memory
- 38 Severed
- 39 Unit of force
- 40 Road preservative

Peanuts

YES, MA'AM... A REPORT ON THE FRENCH REVOLUTION...

TWO THOUSAND WORDS?

YES, MA'AM

PLEASE ALLOW FOUR TO SIX WEEKS FOR DELIVERY

Mutt 'n' Jeff

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I EVER CAME BACK WITH TWO PERMANENT WAVES!

TWO? WHERE'S THE OTHER ONE?

OUTSIDE!

Andy Capp

PET, I - ER - WAS WONDERING IF - ER - ER -

LOOK, SWEETHEART, DON'T SHILLY-SHALLY - IF YOU'D LIKE YOUR MOTHER HERE FOR THE WEEKEND COME STRAIGHT OUT AND ASK

CAN MOTHER COME FOR THE WEEKEND?

OVER MY DEAD BODY

THE BETTER HALF

HARRIS

"I need some tranquilizers for my hyperactive credit card."

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

FROYE

NEARY

TESSMY

HERTAH

Answer: FROYE IT NEARY TESSMY HERTAH

Yesterday's Jumbles: TOXIC YACHT HURRAY CUREN

Answer: What that road hog believes "right" means — RIGHT — OF WAY

Explosions raise fears for Bangladesh presidential poll

DHAKA (R) — Bangladesh's main opposition groups said Sunday they feared bomb blasts at a political rally this weekend signalled a violent campaign ahead of the presidential election on Oct. 15.

Fifteen people were injured when two home-made bombs went off at the rally organised by the key eight-party opposition alliance led by Sheikh Hasina Wajed to call for a united opposition campaign to oust President Hossain Mohammad Ershad.

"This is just an indication that Ershad would try every harsh method to win the election and stay in power," a spokesman for Hasina's alliance said.

The alliance and all other major opposition groups are boycotting the presidential election because they believe it will be rigged in favour of Gen. Ershad, who is running as candidate of the pro-government Jatiya Party.

Mrs. Hasina alleged the bombs

were thrown at Saturday's rally, with the encouragement of the government, by followers of retired Lt.-Col. Sayed Faruk Rahman, one of the 12 candidates in next month's election.

Col. Faruk masterminded a 1975 coup in which Mrs. Hasina's father, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Bangladesh's independence leader, was killed along with six members of his family.

"Ershad is trying to rehabilitate a self-confessed killer so he can suppress anyone trying to obstruct his rule," Mrs. Hasina told Reuters.

Opposition leaders say Col. Faruk is only in the race to add respectability to Gen. Ershad's eventual victory.

Leaders of the Bangladesh

Nationalist Party, which is also boycotting the presidential election, said they strongly opposed violence ahead of the poll "because it will lead the country to a disaster."

"Ershad has already plunged the country into unprecedented economic and political crisis. Its now time all of us try to end violence in whatever form it shapes up," said Rafiqul Islam, a senior Nationalist leader.

"The bombing at yesterday's opposition rally was a blatant attempt to push the country into a dangerous political situation. We call upon every peace-loving citizen to denounce such bids," the Muslim Fundamentalist Jamaat-E-Islami Party said in a statement.

Gen. Ershad, who seized power in a bloodless coup in March, 1982, said he would restore full democracy and lift martial law after the presidential election.

But Mrs. Hasina said in a statement: "I doubt if he will at all



Sheikh Hasina Wajed

allow a truly constitutional rule. He has shepherded the country near to ruin and he is still power crazy."

The opposition groups have called a general strike on Oct. 15 and planned other protests to try to disrupt the vote.

"We shall not resort to violence unless it is imposed on us. We want peace but there's no guarantee that we shall not hit back whenever it will be necessary," Mrs. Hasina said.

The Home (interior) Ministry have asked police and paramilitary forces "not to allow anyone to disrupt the vote."

4 killed in fresh Sri Lankan violence

COLOMBO (R) — Three soldiers and a guerrilla were killed Sunday in renewed fighting in Sri Lanka's eastern province, military officials said.

A spokesman for the military command at Trincomalee town told Reuters by telephone three soldiers were killed and one wounded when a guerrilla landmine they were trying to defuse exploded at Kaddapariachchan, about 25 kilometres away.

One rebel was shot dead in a subsequent gun battle, he said.

A Sinhalese political party announced Sunday it would hold a public meeting next month in the island's rebel-dominated northern

province with the help of Tamil guerrillas.

The independent newspaper, Island, Sunday quoted Vijaya Kumaranatunga, spokesman for the Sri Lanka Mahajana (Peoples) Party (SLMP), as saying it planned to hold a rally in Jaffna on Oct. 15 and conduct religious ceremonies to pray for peace.

Mr. Kumaranatunga told the newspaper that Velupillai Prabhakaran, leader of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, the most powerful of the guerrilla groups, said he had no objections to the meeting or religious ceremony.

The SLMP, which backs a

government plan to end the fighting by giving more power to the provinces, is a splinter group of the main opposition Freedom Party, which opposes the plan. The party is led by Chandrika Kumaranatunga, daughter of Freedom Party leader Sirima Bandaranaike.

Few of Sri Lanka's majority Sinhalese live in Jaffna, a guerrilla stronghold, and the SLMP would be the first Sinhalese party to hold a meeting there in three years.

The state-run newspaper, Observer, said Sunday that a third round of peace talks between the government and moderate Tamils would be held in New Delhi on Oct. 16.

N. Ireland policeman removes bomb before explosion

BELFAST Northern Ireland (AP) — A policeman carried a 40-pound (18-kilogramme) bomb away from the heavily populated centre of Downpatrick early Sunday just 15 minutes before it exploded.

The Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC) said the policeman, a 30-year veteran of the force who was not named, broke the force's rules against picking up suspected bombs but undoubtedly saved lives by his action. The explosion caused only superficial damage to a field.

Police were called to the Welshman's Bar in the centre of Downpatrick, County Down after a nearby resident spotted a suspicious bag outside, police said. A patrol of four officers established it as a large bomb.

The bar was closed. But the surrounding residential area is very populated and one of the officers decided there was no chance of evacuating it before the bomb went off so he picked the bag up and carried it to a nearby field, police said.

"With the safety of the people nearby in mind, and regardless of his own safety, he carried the bomb more than 80 yards (73 metres) away to an open area in a field where it exploded 15 minutes later," a police statement said.

"His actions undoubtedly saved life or serious injury and prevented widespread destruction of property. His action on this occasion was an act of bravery unlike the terrorists who placed it and who have shown a total disregard for the lives of people residing in the area or the devastation which would have been caused to surrounding property," it said.

Police said another bombing was foiled early Sunday after a car was stopped at a checkpoint near Ballynahinch and a second car following it sped through the barrier and drove on.

Police fired several shots at the second car, which was found abandoned about five miles away, with a bomb left in a bag nearby.

Ortega holds talks with church leader

MANAGUA Nicaragua (AP) — President Daniel Ortega has met for the first time in nearly two years with Cardinal Miguel Obando Y Bravo to discuss tensions between the Roman Catholic Church and Sandinista government.

Mr. Ortega said the meeting was "constructive and full of good will."

Representatives of the government and church will meet again Tuesday to begin writing a formal agreement to "normalise and stabilise relations between church and state," he said Saturday.

Catholic Church leaders have been among the severest critics of the left-wing government, at times saying the Sandinistas were trying to impose Marxist totalitarianism.

The government, in turn, has accused some church leaders of supporting the U.S.-backed rebels, a charge the clergymen deny.

Church leaders have repeatedly asked for a meeting with Mr. Ortega. The president and Cardinal Obando Y Bravo, the archbishop of Managua, last met in December 1984.

Saturday's meeting took place at the Vatican embassy in Managua and included Papal Nuncio Paolo Giglio.

After the session, Mr. Ortega told reporters the meeting "shows the willingness to talk on the part of the government and on the part of the church."

Cardinal Obando Y Bravo said he had discussed with Mr. Ortega the government shutdown of a Catholic radio station earlier this year and the expulsions of two Nicaraguan priests.

"We brought these problems up," he said. "But first we must make a practical plan (with the government), and while we make a practical plan we will deal with these problems in particular and see if there really is good will."

Church-government relations were severely strained on July 3 when the government expelled Bishop Pablo Antonio Vega, the second-ranking prelate in Nicaragua. It accused him of making pro-rebel statements.

Church spokesman Monsignor Bismarck Carballo had been barred on June 28 from re-entering Nicaragua after a trip abroad.

Mr. Ortega's government cracked down on the opposition in June after the U.S. Congress approved \$100 million in aid to the rebels, known as contras.

"One of our wishes is for the return of Monsignor Vega and Monsignor Bismarck Carballo," Obando Y Bravo said.

Mr. Ortega said, "we took advantage of this opportunity to explain to the bishops, Cardinal Obando and the Nuncio, the delicate situation this nation is living through, the threats that the politics of the United States present to Nicaragua, and the danger of invasion that exists."

Filipino abductors of tourist toughen stance

ZAMBOANGA, Philippines (AP) — Muslim militants who kidnapped Swiss tourist Hans Kunzli have hardened their demands two days before a military-imposed deadline for his release, the Philippine military said Sunday.

The military said the prospects that the hostage would be released soon dimmed because the militants had reverted to their original demand for a ransom of \$100,000.

Meanwhile, Kunzli, in a handwritten letter released by the military, said the only way for him to be freed was for the ransom to be paid, "otherwise, I stay here forever."

Earlier, Brig.-Gen. Pedro Balbanero, deputy chief of the military's Southern Command, gave the kidnappers until Tuesday to free the Swiss businessman or face "aggressive action."

Gen. Balbanero has ordered three navy patrol boats to seal off the coast of Luuk on Jolo Island, 960 kilometres south of Manila, where Kunzli is believed being held, to prevent the kidnappers' escape.

Gen. Balbanero told reporters a civilian panel negotiating with the kidnappers returned to Zamboanga on Saturday and said gang leader Salih Sappari had gone back to his original ransom demand, which Philippine and Swiss authorities earlier rejected.

The officials also rejected a later demand by the kidnappers for \$10,000.

With the kidnappers back to their old demand, chances of securing Kunzli's immediate release "appear dim," Gen. Balbanero said.

Senate acts on strong anti-drug bill

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. Senate worked until early Sunday morning on a wide-ranging bill to increase penalties for drug use and sales but put off a final vote until Tuesday.

The bill would authorise \$1.4 billion in the government's financial year beginning Oct. 1 to help state and local law enforcement agencies, the Coast Guard and the customs service to fight drug smuggling.

It would also allow the armed forces to help track drug smugglers until they can be caught by law enforcement agencies.

The bill is similar to one passed last week by the House of Representatives but does not include a federal death penalty for drug related murders that the House approved.

Differences in the bills would have to be worked out by a joint conference committee. Final action was delayed to consider ways to pay for the anti-drug programme through the federal budget and to give absent senators a chance to be present for the vote.

Action on the bill reflects growing concern about widespread drug use in the United States, especially among high school and college students.

Earlier this month, Mr. Reagan and his wife, Nancy, made a nationally televised address urging Americans not to use drugs.

Increased national attention was focused on the drug problem when Star University of Maryland

Polish leader begins 'working visit' to China

PEKING (AP) — Polish leader Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski arrived Sunday for a visit that could herald a new era of closer relations between China and the Soviet Union's East Bloc allies.

Gen. Jaruzelski is the first Eastern European leader — except for Nicolae Ceausescu of East Bloc maverick Romania — to visit China since China and the Soviet Union split over ideological and foreign policy differences in the 1960s.

His visit caps a surge in recent years of renewed economic and political contacts between China and the East Bloc states of Poland, East Germany, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria that reportedly have the tacit approval of Moscow.

East European sources in Peking have said the visit by Gen. Jaruzelski, and East German President Erich Honecker next month, will set the stage for the restoration of relations between the Communist parties of China and Eastern Europe.

China's Communist Party Sunday maintains formal ties with its counterparts in Romania and Yugoslavia, but has had no relations with other Eastern European Communists since the 1960s.

"I think we can come to terms on party-to-party relations," said one Polish source, speaking on condition of anonymity.

He noted that party relations were frozen, not formally broken, in the 1960s, and the two sides were now in the "defrosting process."

Gen. Jaruzelski, the first leader from his country to visit China since 1959, is here for three days following visits in Mongolia and North Korea.

He was greeted at Peking's airport by Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian, and was expected to meet Premier Zhao Ziyang later in the day after a visit to Peking's

Forbidden City. He is to meet senior leader Deng Xiaoping, Communist Party General Secretary Hu Yaobang and President Li Xianian on Monday.

Gen. Jaruzelski's 50-member entourage includes Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs Zbigniew Szalajda; politburo member Jozef Ceyrek, who is responsible for relations with other Communist parties, and Internal Affairs Minister Czeslaw Kiszcak.

Unlike Mr. Honecker, who will be making a more formal "official state visit," Gen. Jaruzelski's "working visit" is being kept low key, with no planned welcoming ceremony.

But Polish government spokesman Jerzy Urban said last week that Gen. Jaruzelski's trip has a "considerably bigger dimension than just a manifestation" of Poland's improved relations with China.

"Gen. Jaruzelski will express the interests of the entire Socialist community," Mr. Urban said, indicating that the visit has Moscow's endorsement.

China has actively promoted greater economic and political ties with Eastern Europe since 1982, when the start of Sino-Soviet normalisation talks cleared the way for smoothing over differences persisting since Mao Tse-tung in the 1950s and 1960s.

Trade with Eastern Europe reached \$2.64 billion last year, up about 70 per cent from 1984, and should grow substantially this year.

Sino-Polish trade, mainly on a barter basis, is expected to be \$938 million this year, up from \$294 million in 1984. China provides Poland with rice, tea, pork and cotton and imports machinery, vehicles and steel.

Parakeet recites poetry in English

MOSCOW (R) — A parakeet belonging to a family in a Soviet village recites poetry in English and gives descriptions of London, TASS news agency has reported.

The bird, called Kesha, began reciting verses by Shakespeare and the Russian poet Pushkin in English translation after hearing them on Soviet television English language classes, it said. Kesha, whose owners live in the Republic of Byelorussia, also picked up descriptions of London and English life but sometimes got its sentences mixed up. It had been heard to say that the Thames was being discussed in parliament and the Tories (Conservatives) were the most popular sight in Britain, TASS said.

Nurse held in attempted murder of AIDS patient

SANTA MONICA, California (AP) — A male nurse was held without bail in the death of an AIDS patient who was given a potentially fatal injection on the orders of a telephone caller posing as a doctor. The patient, a vice president at the William Morris Talent Agency, survived the hoax a week ago but died at St. John's Hospital last Wednesday. Hal Speers Rachman, 39, was arrested and was held without bail for investigation of murder, said Santa Monica Police Sgt. Russ Martin.

China scraps second list of simplified characters

PEKING (AP) — China has formally revoked a list of simplified written characters that was tried out briefly in 1977 and then suspended for further discussion and revision, an official report said Sunday. The People's Daily (Renmin Ribao) said the list of 2,236 simplified characters issued in 1964 will remain the standard. The 1977 scheme, which reduced the number of strokes by an additional 853 characters, was widely criticised for over-simplification and for making the written language confusing.

Bobby 'resurrected' in Dallas

NEW YORK (R) — Bobby Ewing, J.R.'s younger brother, is back on "Dallas," which just goes to show that in the land of television soaps, death can be a dream. Bobby, the good guy foil to the villainous Texas oilman whom all the world loves to hate, was knocked off in a car crash two years ago. But he — or someone who looked a lot like him — turned up in the closing episode last season, taking a shower in the home of his former wife, Pam. Viewers had to wait until the premiere of the ninth season this year to find out that Pam dreamed the whole thing — Bobby's death, her marriage to someone else and, presumably, everything else that happened in his absence last season. "Honey, what's the matter?" Bobby asked Pam, as he stepped from the shower where viewers last saw him in the spring. "You look like you just saw a ghost." Bobby, it was awful, the shaken Pam replied. "When I woke up I thought you were dead... I had a nightmare, a terrible nightmare."

Mom yanks son free of alligator

CRYSTAL RIVER, Florida (AP) — A 12-year-old boy snorkeling in a creek was bitten on the head by an alligator, then chased to shore where his mother yanked him from the gator's grip in a grim struggle that broke the child's leg. Jessica Morgret, a 36-year-old teacher's aide, can't stop reliving the close call her son Michael went through on Wednesday. "The kid was screaming and I raced to the bank. I looked down and saw the gator right, smack behind him — chasing him to shore. As I was pulling my son onto the rocks, the gator chomped down on him. That's when he injured his leg. I was pulling on him and I felt a release. I pulled again. Hard. Michael was listed in fair condition at a local hospital with puncture wounds to the scalp and a compound break of the lower left leg. So far he's reacted well. He's just angry. His leg hurt and he gets mad at the gator," Mrs. Morgret.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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THE DARK ISN'T LIGHT ENOUGH

Neither vulnerable South deals

NORTH

♠ K 4 2

♥ 7

♦ K J 10 4 2

♣ J 9 7

WEST

♠ 9 8 5

♥ A 10 5 2

♦ 8 7

♣ Q 8 3

EAST

♠ 10 7 6

♥ J 8 5 4 3

♦ 8 7

♣ K 10 6

SOUTH

♠ A Q J 3

♥ Q 6

♦ A 9 5

♣ A 5 4 2

The bidding

South West North East

1 NT Pass 3 NT Pass

Pass Pass

Opening lead: Two of ♠

When deciding which way to

take a two-way finesse, there are

many factors to take into account.

You might be able to obtain a count

of the high-card points or distribution

as a clue to which defender is

most likely to hold the missing key

card. You might have to take it one

way because of entry problems, or

to keep the danger hand off lead.

Today's hand shows yet another

reason to take it one way rather

than the other.

The auction was short and

sweet. With 11 high-card points, a

balanced hand and no four-card

At trick two declarer led a diamond to his nine and West's queen. That worthy had an immediate decision to make. Assume that South had the guarded queen of hearts and the king rather than the ace of clubs. In that case, to defeat the contract West would have to shift to a club so his partner could gain the lead to play a heart through declarer's presumed guarded queen.

After some thought, West decided that it was better to play East for the ace of clubs than for five hearts. The contract rolled home with an overtrick.